

Victor Brockenborough Letters, 1937-1946

SC2014.048

Transcribed by Jennifer Pulsney, February 2023

Salisbury University Nabb Research Center Special Collections

Preferred citation: Item, collection name, [Box #, Folder #,] Edward H. Nabb
Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture, Salisbury University, Salisbury,
Maryland.

Envelope

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.
Spring Lake
N.J.

(Addressee) Master Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

102 Tuttle Ave
Spring Lake
N.J.
July 1, 1937

Dear Sweet Heart,

Just a note and a little gift for 4th of July. Hope you get it in time + have a good time. Would have sent it sooner but I am very busy. Am so very glad to know my boy is doing so fine in school. I enjoyed your nice letter very much. Tell mother as soon as I can, will write her. Now dear, ask mother what is best to do with your small gift. Love for all and lots of kisses + love for your self.

Your loving God Mother

Envelope

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.
Spring Lake
N.J.
(Addressee) Mrs. Phil. Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

102 Tuttle Ave.
Spring Lake, N.J.
Sept 12 – 1937

Dearest Julie,

I have been thinking about you for so long that I thot as I've a few spare moments would send you a line or two. Guess you are very busy now getting the children ready for school. Julie it seems ages since I've seen you. Last year I had plans to run over and was sick so had to beat it home. Then when I came up, came right here, they kept sending specials for me so this time I do hope I will be able to see you. Julie, I am kept so very busy until some times it seems my feet are where my head is and head to my feet. The pass two weeks was too tired to sleep. It wasnt quite so bad when the old girl was here altho she was a devil to get a long with. She would give me a hand. Now this year they have three girls. I got them both here and yet they wouldnt give me hand even when the house is full and have so much. They go up stairs every day from 3 oclock and come down at six Wednes + Sat. no dinner to get so they dress + go out. While I am working like a beaver but if I am back next summer things will have to be different. Well the new houses are open. Alma was fortunate to get one and she is so glad she has had Henry home sick every half term so I am glad for her sake she got one. I don't know when she will move. Gee Julie I sure wish you were going in one. The rent is cheap but so much red tape no widows or single girls can get one. Alma's children goes to the Catholic school + Sunday school now. Well dearie I guess you had all the news from home. I heard Edie married Sue Boyden grand daughter. I forgot the name now. So some one asked him where he was going to live so he said in my house of course. So maybe he and Lulu came to some understanding. One thing I think you should have what you put into it. I don't remember if I told you Viola Alston Vaughn that live on Rose Lane died this summer. You know she is first cousin to the Dobson girls. She left 2 small girls her husband never went back to her. Her brother that lives west took the children with him. Julie how are all the children also Lelia + Tillie when you heard from them. Julie I think my boys birthday is some time this month so I am enclosing a dollar for him so he can get some thing for school. Tell him God Mother didn't have time to write him but I wish for him lots of very happy birthdays. Much love for all.

Ever yours, Victoria

Envelope

Postmark: Dec 13, 1937

(Sender) From Hardy
102 Tuttle Ave.
Spring Lake, N.J.

(Addressee) Mrs. Phil Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

Sunday Night
Spring Lake

Dearest Julie

Just a line dear I am in such a hurry. I think we are leaving to marron some time and then I'll go right home. We are so late leaving here. I've been packing all day and so much to do in the morning. Am so very sorry that I won't be able to see you but I will make it my business to see you when I come up in the Spring if the Good Lord so wills. My sister's husband has been very ill for quite a while. He is on his last now and they are looking for him to die at any time. They live in Sumter. My but it has been so bitter cold even home. Now dear I've a few notes to write so cant write more now. Am enclosing a little Xmas for Victor. Please give it to him for me. Only wish it could be more. Lots of love to all and wish all of of you a very merry xmas. I thot by this time I would have seen the ____ so I could enjoy my xmas dinner, but such is life.

Lovingly, Vic

Envelope

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.
Spring Lake
N.J.
(Addressee) Mrs. Phil. Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

102 Tuttle Ave
Spring Grove
New Jersey

Dearest Julie –

I know it's a surprise to get a line from me but then you know you never write either. Well dear I hope you and family have been well during the winter for we sure had a bad winter all over. Well dear my Sisters have not been well at all so it kept me very busy the whole time I was home right up to the time I left. Guess you heard both Sisters lost their husband in 1937 one in Jan. other in Dec. Sister the oldest, that married Ren McKay in Sumter don't seem to pull up at all. The Pequets are living in your house and Lulu is living North with her Sister Mrs. Boston. As he died also. Guess all this is stale news to you. There is so much to tell you that I cant think of when I start to write. It seems ages since I've seen you. These folks don't let me have any time to visit in N.Y. because they send for me the last minute. Then it's the last minute when I am rushing for home. They only keep one girl in the City. This is there Summer home and they come down early. Some time during the Summer I will try to come over. On Wednesdays its \$1.25 return same day. On the train its \$3.10. Of course I am kept very busy all the time the other 2 girls can go up and get in bed in afternoon while I am still at it. Please tell my God son I haven't forgotten him. Lots of love for all. O Julie, I had those collars + socks for some times but just neglect to get them off. The children could wear them in the winter over their stockings. Even you. They are the mad am golf socks. Hope you go them. I had just arrived in N.Y. when I mailed them. Good bye dear.

Lovingly yours, Victoria

Envelope

(Sender) Return to 294 Ashley Ave.
Charleston S.C.

(Addressee) Mrs. Phil. Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

294 Ashley Ave
Charleston, S.C.
Feb 11 – 1940

Dearest Julie –

I know this is a surprise to you. Every day for months I would say I must write Julie. Well dear, it seems I am not myself so much on my mind and working in Spring Lake with my mind on home because I know Sister was far from well. Well on the 4th of Nov. Sue had to send for me. Well she lived two weeks after I got home. Poor Sue was completely done up. She wouldn't let me know how things were. Well Sister passed away on the 29th of Nov. Just exactly one year 11 months after her husband. I don't think ive seen you since both Susan and Sister lost their husband in 1937. Now its only Sue, myself and my brother in Chicago. He has been an invalade a long time. Julie dear so many have passed away. Do you know Edna Pequette rents your family house. Bogard St. Edde Edwards has two children married girl + boy. She has 8 children 4 each. Your Brother Eddie lives on Queen St. with the Boyden even. Julie dear I will try my best to see you this summer. You see when I come up its early + my folks write for me and it don't allow me time to see my friends. I certainly want to see you and family. Tell my godson I haven't forgotten him but I've been so upset. Some times it seems as if I would lose my mind. Julie the cold this winter has broken all records and it last so long. We just couldn't do any thing. Not even stick a needle and I go North in April if nothing happens. Some place Spring Lake. I will write Victor from there in the summer. Do you ever hear from Lelia and Tillie. Ruby Gibbs and family lives on John Island. Laura is in New York. Leola lives upAshby are next to her mother . Their father has been dead one year on the 18th of Jan. Well dear I think I've told you all I can think of. Lots of love to all and excuse writing in pencil.

Lovingly yours, Victoria

Write when you can.

Envelope

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.
Spring Lake
N.J.

(Addressee) For Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

102 Tuttle Ave
Spring Lake, New Jersey
June 16 – 1940

Hello Victor Dear

It has been quite a long time since I wrote you, but have been thinking of you all the time. Have been sick part of the time and busy the rest of the time. Well dear how are you and every one is getting along. What grade are you in now? Tell mother I wrote her before leaving home but she never answered. We are having funny weather here on the coast. One day it nearly burns one up then the next it cold and plenty of rain. Today is beautiful. Ocean is calm. Now dearie I haven't time for a long letter.

Enclose is a dollar. Lots of love for all

Lovingly, Godmother

Envelope

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.
Spring Lake
N.J.

(Addressee) Master Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

Sunday

Hello Dear

This is only a note. Inclose is a dollar to get some little thing for Xmas. Hope you and family will have a very pleasant Xmas and New Year. I am leaving for home Tuesday. You can drop me a line there. Am truly sorry I was not able to get there to see mother and all of you. My love for all.

Lovingly, Godmother

Envelope

Postmark: June 11, 1941

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.

Spring Lake

N.J.

(Addressee) Master Victor Brockenborough

57-31 Van Daren St.

Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

102 Tuttle Ave
Spring Lake, N.J.

Victor Dear

Just a line as I am so busy. How are the folks. I was sick during the winter been back here just a month. Dear I cant remember when you finish that school so I am sending you a \$1 to get some thing. Gloria graduate Sunday from Catholic School. Tell Mother I am longing to hear from her. I have very little time and my time is so short when I do get to N.Y. I don't have time to get there. Lots of love to all.

Lovingly, God Mother

Envelope

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.

Spring Lake

N.J.

(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough

57-31 Van Daren St.

Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

Sept 28

Hello Sweetheart

Your very nice letter was rec'd. I was delighted to get one from you. I've been thinking of you for quite a while aside from being sick I was very busy and still is. Victor I am so very glad to know you are doing so wonderful in school. I am very proud of my godson. I was in N.Y. two weeks ago to the Dr but didn't have time to visit. Now I'll have to go over again about the last of Oct. for insurance and if I can possibly get two days off I will try some how to get over there. It seems ages since I've seen any of you. Victor Dear enclosed is a dollar for birthday. I would like to send you more but couldn't this time. Lots of love for all.

Your loving Godmother

Envelope

Postmark: October 20, 1941

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.
 Spring Lake
 N.J.
(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
 57-31 Van Daren St.
 Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

102 Tuttle Ave
Spring Lake, N.J.

Dear Godson –

I am writing to find out if you got my letter of the 28 of Sept. I put a dollar in it for your birthday. I know you always answer right back. Tell mother to write me and tell me all the news. I am so busy all the time. Lots of love for all.

Your loving Godmother

Envelope

Postmark: December 21, 1941

(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
 57-31 Van Daren St.
 Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

Saturday
294 Ashby Ave
Charleston, S.C.

Dearest Victor

Your last letter was rec'd. I was over to the Dr. twice but didn't have time to get over there. Lots of love to all of you and may you + all enjoy the Xmas + New Years to the fullest. By the way, you mention Carolyn was cute as ever. Who is Carolyn? Enclose is a \$1.00 for Xmas.

Envelope

Postmark: 1942

(Sender) Return to 102 Tuttle Ave.
 Spring Lake
 N.J.

(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
 57-31 Van Daren St.
 Corona, Long Island, N.Y.

Correspondence

Aug 5th

102 Tuttle Ave
Spring Lake, N.J.

My Dear Godson

Your nice letter was rec'd. I was more than glad to hear from you and to know you and the rest are well. I thot surely mother would write me as she promised last Summer. I haven't been at all well but one has to go to live and things are getting worse. I am so glad dear you have chosen such a fine trade. I know everyone is proud of you. I think your father is very much. You have change so much since I saw you last: wouldn't have known you. Dear you don't ever say anything about Billie + Bobbie. What are they doing and is Kate and baby staying with mother? We have had so much rain and hot weather here. Many homes are close ____ people are afraid to come down on the coast. Well Victor dear when I go to New York again will try hard to get over to see you. Lots of love for all and best of good wishes for you in your work.

Lovingly Godmother

Inclose is a dollar (\$1.00)

Envelope

(Sender) 297 Stuyvesant Avenue
B'klyn, n.y.
(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

297 Stuyvesant Avenue
B'klyn, n.y.
Feb. 8, 1943

Dear Victor,

Wed. night after I left the rink and went home, I kept hoping and praying that you wouldn't think me a flirt. Its very seldom I give away my address when I haven't been introduced. But since you introduced yourself to me its O.K. now.

Now to your questions, I am 15 yrs. Old, I'm in 4th term high school, ____ have ____ come to see me, but about when I can see you I don't know just yet. You see there is someone else. What I'm trying to say is – I go with someone. We can still be friends though, and write each ^other^ can't we?

I don't know when I'll go skating again. I think it will be soon though. The girl that was with me is not my sister, but she is (over) my cousin. As soon as you can come down and bring your two friends so they can meet my cousin and still have another one. They can meet. Do you know how to get here? Say – by the way you didn't tell me how old you were.

Oh yes you mentioned two brothers – one 18 + the other 21. Is the 21 yr. one married? I have a girlfriend who would like to meet your 18 yr. old brother. She is 16 yrs. old, has brown eyes, black hair, in other words she's very attractive. That means when you come down the first time you'll have to bring your two friends then the second time your brother. But when you come it will have to be a Sat. or Sun. do you think you'll be able to make it?

I think I've answered all of your questions. I also hope you can understand my handwriting. As you see I'm back handed, and I'm in school trying to finish this letter before the bell rings.

Oh why did I say anything – there goes the bell now so I'll have to close. Ans. Soon.

Sincerely yours,
Margaret Pray

P.S. My cousin is 16, the other is 15.

Envelope

Postmark: February 14, 1943

(Sender) 297 Stuyvesant Avenue
B'klyn, n.y.
(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

297 Stuyvesant Avenue
Brooklyn, New York
Feb 1943

Dear Victor,

I received your letter, but was terribly sorry you were disappointed as finding out I went with someone. It's not the boy whom I was with at the skating rink, he is just a friend. But you see I didn't want to make you think I was leading you on that's why I decided to tell you in the very beginning. As you know some girls will fool around with a fellow, lead him on etc, then tell them they have a boyfriend.

Please don't feel too badly about it, because believe it or not I've only seen you once but I like you just much as if you lived across the street from me. See how much your (over) friendship means to me? About your brother, I know a boy who works up there also. When you write him if it wouldn't be too much trouble would you ask him if he knows Norman Clinton?

You said you can only come down on Sundays, well that's alright the only trouble is I don't get out of church till about 2 o'clock. Would that be alright? If you don't know the directions find them out from someone, because I don't know how to go to Corona much less come from there. But you let me know if you know them in your next letter and I'll let you know when I'll be expecting you. Also bring your friends as I have two cousins. The three of you, and the three of us. Would you please tell me how old they are? I scarcely remember their faces + I forgot which one gave you the card. They got on the same car as we did coming home, but it was so crowded I still couldn't see, and the fellow I was with made it still worse. You could see for yourself how he was glued onto me that night and it was worse coming home. I just did get a ~~chance~~ chance to wave to them when they got off the car. But I can't remember what they look like an I'm sorry to say, but I forgot what you look like too (aint I terrible) I bet you even forgot how I look now didn't you? Tell the truth. Anyway maybe if you send me a picture I can see just how you look. Will you try and send me one as soon as you can? I'll try to do the same, but I hate to take pictures. Gee! But I'm writing a long letter. I just feel in a writing mood tonite. I don't know maybe its because I'm all alone. The only person to whom I write ~~longs~~ long letters is to my daddy. He's in the Army. Right now he is in Hawaii. That reminds me I have to write to him also. Well tomorrow is a holiday, + no school, therefore I go to the show. Well I'd better close now. I hope you ~~are~~ aren't tired reading. This is an unusually long letter for me to be writing I never get ~~fat~~ farther than 2 pages. Well I'll close now. Tell your friends I said hello, and answer soon. Also don't forget the picture.

Sincerely,
Margaret

Envelope

Postmark: February 18, 1943

(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, NY.

Correspondence

Civilian Dormitories
Bldg 28, Room 8
Rome Air Depot
Rome, N.Y.

Dear Vic,

I received your letter but am sorry I am returning it so late.

I see you are taking after me in the way you are jiving the chicks.

It seems you are making pretty good money now and I hope you are handing dome in to mom and also saving some.

How are those Brooklyn chicks by the way? Are they as good as the Corona chicks? If you get her picture send me one so I can see how good your taste is. If you take after your brother Bill I know what to expect.

How do you like working and not going to school? I'll bet you sure miss school, we all do. Sometimes I wish I was back.

Tell mom I received a letter from Uncle Eddie with a dollar in it.

I can't buy the sweatshirt at the P.X. which is in the depot so I'll have to buy you something else. It's going to surprise you. If I don't send it to you I'll bring it when I come home.

Well I must close now so keep the chicks happy.

Your (twin) brother
Billy

P.S. Tell Kate I received the card and tell everyone I send my love.

Envelope

(Sender) 297 Stuyvesant Avenue
B'klyn, n.y.
(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

297 Stuyvesant Avenue
Brooklyn, New York
Feb. 22, 1943

Dear Victor,

I received your letter and was glad to know that you have an idea where I live and how to get here. But my cousins and I disagree with you and your friends about meeting us someplace. What's wrong with coming to one of our houses? You see we hardly know you as it is, and that's all the more reason why we think you should come to our house. I'll let you know when we'll be expecting you.

Also about a show, I don't know as yet as I told you before church takes up most of the morning that is until around two o'clock and then – oh I just don't know. Maybe we can decide when you get here. Another thing is we can go to the show any day except Sunday. So I'm afraid if you come we'll have to go somewhere else. I'm very sorry, but I hope you'll understand. The group I was with when I met you are planning to go skating again but I doubt if I'll see you because when we go it will be on a Saturday and in the afternoon at that, and you're working then aren't you?

I'm afraid this letter isn't going to be like the last. (in length) because I can't think of much except for the last three days it's been like Spring here. How's it been where you are?

Well since it was no school today the 3 of us landed in the show as usual. We practically live there on Saturdays and holidays. But into the old routine again tomorrow. You see in school I take up cafeteria (a Trade School) I hope to be dietician. This term I'm a waitress in the school tearoom. It's very big and about as busy as ____ and _____. Half the time we girls go crazy, that's what I dread tomorrow. Oh well. Can't have a holiday every day. I'm sorry Victor, but I just can't think of anything else. My brain simply will not function. (Don't you dare say "what brain" like all my friends say because they swear I'm crazy.)

Sincerely yours,
Margaret

Envelope

(Sender) 297 Stuyvesant Avenue
B'klyn, n.y.
(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

297 Stuyvesant Avenue
Brooklyn, New York
March 8, 1943

Dear Victor,

I received your letter of Feb. 4th. Are you sure that's the correct date? It's way last month. I thought maybe you made a little mistake, but come to think of it you did mention something about taking sorta long in answering. I guess you can see the difference in the pens, that I'm writing with. Today in school someone stole my fountain pen, so I have to write with a plain ole ordinary ink pen. It's terrible too. I'm not used to dipping it in ink every minute and I'm getting angrier and angrier by the second. Well I hope you can understand it at any rate.

In school last week for a couple of days half of it was deserted, Ella an the H keep were the reason. Every body went to the Apollo. You said you went too. I guess everyone went. (except me)

About this party the Myalettes are giving, but the time this arrives you will have been there so tell me all about it. The last party I went to was last month (an I guess It will be the last for a while). The girl you thought was my sister had a birthday, so my other girlfriend and I gave her a surprise party. I had such a nice time I'm still talking about it (as you can see) Well I arrived home (over) in the early hours of morning. My mother said no more parties for the duration, but she really means for a while yet. (I hope)

I don't really know when to tell you to come down. You see on Sunday evenings there is a church club I attend. I'm the Sect. and I go at 7 o'clock. Ell what I'm worried about is the time I get out of morning services is around 2:30 the latest. You say it almost takes an hour to get here (if you didn't somebody told me) Well by the time you get here, say 3 o'clock, I have to leave at 7, that's only 4 hours stay for you all. That's whats worrying me. But if its alright with you let me know. If it's not let me know anyway. Ans. soon.

Margaret

Envelope

(Sender) 297 Stuyvesant Avenue
B'klyn, n.y.
(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

297 Stuyvesant Avenue
Brooklyn, New York
March 16, 1943

Dear Victor,

I received your letter and was very glad to hear from you. I was also glad that you thought a 4 hr. stay is alright. Do you think you could make it the 28th of this month? If you can I'll be expecting you. I'm giving you almost 2 weeks in advance to make up your mind, so you ^can^ tell me in your next letter whether it's O.K. or not.

I wanted to see the picture you saw, at the Roxy so much, but I decided I'd wait until it comes to Brooklyn. About 2 weeks ago my friend and I saw "Shadow of a Doubt." It was very good. If you haven't seen it yet, see it when it comes to one of the movies out your way. (over)

By all means try and persuade your friends to come with you. Then you wont be by yourself. I am writing you now in my English class and the teacher has just come in so I have to close. I'll be expecting you the 28th. If you have other plans let me know.

Sincerely yours,
Margaret

Envelope

(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, NY.

Correspondence

Civilian Dormitories
Bldg 28, Room 8
Rome Air Depot
Rome, N.Y.
Mar. 17, 1943

Dear Victor,

I received your letter and did, not answer it sooner because, I have been very busy.

So you are buying more war bonds well I am too, last week I signed up for more war bonds. War bonds will be valuable to you in the near future so grab as may as you can.

Your still in touch with that girl, well make she is the right one for you so hand on to her.

About the job Vic I agree with mom, I think you should stay where you are. He was the one who gave you your first chance and he has treated you fine so far.

I have another promotion coming April 25 but I guess I will be called to the Army about then.

Well Vic I guess that is all I can say except give my love to everyone and take care of mom for me.

Your (twin) brother,
Billie

Envelope

(Sender) 297 Stuyvesant Avenue
B'klyn, n.y.
(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

297 Stuyvesant Avenue
Brooklyn, New York
March 30, 1943

Dear Victor,

I received your letter and was glad to hear from you. It's too bad you and your friends couldn't make it but there are other times I guess. Somehow I had a hunch that something would happen and you wouldn't come.

I hope you'll forgive me for not writing sooner but I have been very busy. In fact I was ill part of the week. I even fainted. Isn't that terrible? I hope you are sympathizing with me. But I am much better now thank you. Well enough to write a letter at least.

I am writing this letter in the library – I guess you are saying I write letters especially yours in all kind of places. Most of them in school and now in the library. I'm suppose to be getting a book and finding your letter in my pocket I decided to write you right here + now while I was in the mood.

My two cousins were also a bit disappointed at you not coming. Friday night I'm going to the Bronx, but I wont be anywhere near you. Well I guess I'll close now. Answer soon.

Sincerely,
Margaret

Envelope

(Sender) 297 Stuyvesant Avenue
B'klyn, n.y.
(Addressee) Mr. Victor Brockenborough
57-31 Van Daren St.
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

297 Stuyvesant Avenue
Brooklyn, New York
April 23, 1943

Dear Victor,

I received your card and though it was very nice of you too think of me. After you didn't answer my letter I thought you had forgotten about me, but then I saw the card and I knew you remembered me. How about that picture I'm supposed to get? After all a promise is a promise, and I did promise to send you one ^of me^ and I will just as soon as I get yours.

Are you doing anything special Easter Sunday? I'm not sure about going anyplace as yet, but probably go somewhere, because my cousins will drag me out even if its to Prospect Rush where we go every Sunday and every Easter too. I wish we didn't have to go back to school Easter week, but its no use wishing this because its not going to happen.

You mentioned in your letter something that wouldn't be of interest to me, but since you didn't finish how do you know, it might have been quite an interest to me. So please ~~fin~~ finish it ^in^ your next letter please.

You also said you wish you ^could^ see me again and get better acquainted. Well what's stopping you? And I don't think you're getting sentimental in the least.

Well I have to go shopping now so I'd better close. My mother is waiting for me. You'll excuse me now wont you.

Please don't take as long in answering as you did before and DON'T FORGET THOSE PICTURES. And if you can get hold of your friends send them also.

Sincerely,
Margaret

P.S. My cousins send their regards. Some future date were planning to go to the skating rink again. Mayne we'' see you + your friends there. Who knows?

Envelope

(Sender) Mabel Skillman
(Addressee) Victor Brockenborough
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

413 W. 141st St
New York, New York
Oct 23, 1943

Dearest Victor,

I received your sweet and most interesting letter today, and was more than glad to hear from you. I have been waiting patiently for a letter from you ever since "Marcy" told me you were going to write me.

I'm so glad you would like to meet me. And I shall be overjoyed to meet you. I really don't care whether you are handsome or not. Looks is only skin deep to some people. Marcy has told me all about you, so I know you and I are going to be great friends, at least I hope so –

I'm so sorry I wasn't able to come skating last Sunday and unfortunately I won't be able to come this Sun. either. My Uncle is supposed to come over for Dinner Sun. so Mother told me I had to be at home. I really want to come because I love to skate and I know I would love fun – especially with you (smile)

There really isn't anything to tell about myself, only I am lonesome. It's true that I know a lot of people. I'm not lonesome for them, but for companionship. I also miss my Grandmother, because this is the first time I've ever been away from her.

I am only fifteen but I shall be sixteen November 25th. I shall be delighted to be sixteen, because all of my friends are older than I and I feel so young when I am with them. I am in the same term as Marcy, and so far, I like that school, but I would rather be at H.H. S. in Plio. I want to go back, but I can't possibly do that until I meet you. (smile)

I'm glad you want to go into the Navy, because I would prefer that also, but I hope you won't have to go too soon. I would like to meet you and get acquainted real well with you first.

I hope you won't be dissapointed when you see me; I think Marcy has been telling you things which aren't true. She just wants you to like me. – so do I. if you are anything like her, - I know you are swell, because she is one of the sweetest girls in our school.

I will give this to Marcy to give to you, so you shall get it sooner (smile)

Please ans. soon and give it to Marcy to give to me, so I shall get yours sooner also. Until I hear from you, I'll remain

Very Truly Yours,
Mabel

P.S. Don't worry about me being dissapointed – how could I be? Let's hope we shall meet – soon.

Envelope

Postmark: March 13, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough
S.S.S. Barracks 1803E
Corps Robert Smalls
Great Lakes, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-37 Ellis Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Correspondence

F 2/c

Victor Brockenborough
S.S.S. Barracks 1803E
Corps Robert Smalls
Great Lakes, Ill.

Dear Effie,

I guess you are wondering who I am and how I know your name and address. Aside from that I also know how you look and you are pretty. You see, my brother is in the Army. His name is P.F.C. William Brockenborough. He sent me your picture and address and told me to get in touch with you. He is in Augusta, Ga. As you probably know. I have been to Chicago quite a few times on liberty before he told me about you. I haven't had a chance to see you so I thought I'd write you a few lines. I am about the same height as my brother, if not taller, not as handsome, a little bashful at times, about the same complexion and in the Navy as you can see by my address. I'm pretty sure I saw you at the U.S.O. on 49th St. but I may have been mistaken. I haven't seen my brother since August. I have a feeling I will see him soon. He is about a year older than I and we certainly did have swell times together while we were kids.

He may have told you this if he's written you lately. He expects to be transferred to another base with a 10 day delay enroute which is something like a furlough. I expect to be shipped out to Hampton, Virginia in about two weeks the latest. We live in New York and Hampton is about 9 hrs ~~w~~-ride from there and he may come to see me. Of course, that would make me very happy.

I hope I will see you in person someday, but right now it looks hopeless. Will you please write to me and if you have another picture, I would be overjoyed if you sent it to me. I don't blame my brother for asking me to send the picture back to him, although I hated to do it. I'm closing now expecting to hear from you soon.

Sincerely yours,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S.N.T.S
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.
(Addressee) Miss Effie Shores
32-37 Ellis Ave
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S.N.T.S
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.

April 2, 1944

Dear Effie,

It's the other way around now. I guess you are wondering why I haven't answered your letter sooner. Well, as you can see by my address, I am now in Hampton, Va. I am going to Electrician's Mate school and also have home work. It takes up most of my spare time during the week so I have time only on Sundays to write letters. It also took quite a few days to forward your letter to Hampton from Great Lakes.

Your letter was very interesting and I wish to thank you for sending the photo of your pretty self. I haven't a photo of myself yet but I will send you one as soon as I have some taken.

Your invitation to come to your house would be accepted with happiness if I were still in Great Lakes, but because I am no longer there, I am very sad. You asked what does the F 2/c mean. It means Fireman second class. Anyone that works below deck of a ship is classified as a fireman such as a Motor machinist, Electrician, Motor ordnance, or Pipe fitters. Pla. 3 means third platoon. Each company is divided into platoons. On my last address I had S.S.S. That means service school selectee. I'm in school now so that is no longer necessary.

It is very beautiful here at Hampton. The green grass, trees, river, buildings, and the sunshine helps to make it so. On the campus are students of some college and soldiers. On sunny days our band plays while we march to chow hall. On Saturdays we have inspection of our gear (clothes, etc.) and our uniforms we have on. If we do not pass in our school marks we are put on the "tree" which means we are restricted and can not go on liberty. We have to stay in the barracks and study.

I hope you aren't offended when I ask you this question. It is kind of personal and you don't have to answer it if you don't want to. Are you in love with any one, I mean seriously? You are very pretty and I hope to see you some day in the near future. Closing now with best wishes successin doing your homework (smile).

Yours very sincerely
Victor

Envelope

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-37 Ellis Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

(Sender) *Back* Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S.N.T.S
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S.N.T.S
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.

April 12, 1944

Dear Effie,

I received your swell letter and was more than glad to hear from you.

You asked if I would be able to use what I learn about Electricity after the war. Yes, I will. Before I entered the Navy I was working in a plant wiring lamps for the Navy and Army. I also did some electroplating work. Electroplating is depositing one kind of metal over another by putting the metal in a chemical solution with an electric current running through it. I don't know if you understand it, but that's what I was doing. I also took up electrical installation in school which is the reason why I picked Electrician's Mate as my course.

I'm doing pretty well in school so far, but it's getting harder each week. The failing mark is 62 and I haven't gotten below 85. The honor roll rate is 90. We have to get 90 in every subject to make the honor roll and I got 85 in Theory so I missed the honor roll by 5 points last week. However I believe I made the honor roll this week. These are the classes we go to.

Theory
Wiring shop
Machine shop
Bench work
Blue print reading
Mathematics

I'm also keeping up with my homework and it takes up a good deal of my time.

I'm also glad to hear you passed in all your classes and hope you continue to do so. I did hear from Billy about four or five days ago. He was home when he wrote. He isn't home now so I'll have to wait until he sends me his new address. He must have told you of his being transferred. I haven't had any photos taken ^yet^ but don't give up. I'm a little camera shy and I'll have find a little time. Closing with best wishes and regards.

Sincerely yours,
Victor

Envelope

Postmark: May 1, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S. Navy
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.
(Addressee) Miss Effie Shores
~~32-37~~ 32-33 Ellis Ave
Chicago 16, Ill.

No letter

Envelope

Postmark: ____ 15, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S. Navy
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.
(Addressee) Miss Effie Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S.N.T.S
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.

Dearest Effie,

I received your swell letter and was very glad to hear from you. I hope you don't mind my salutation, but your letter was so sweet, I just had to show you how I feel.

I told you, I believed you were a good bowler and I don't think that was beginners luck. I answered one of Bill's letters last Sunday and expect to hear from him soon. My sister phoned me and said she received a letter from him. He wrote that he passed all his tests and that he waiting for the next step in his training.

I'm glad to hear you don't care for jitter-bugging because there are so few girls that can't do without it. I'm crazy about slow dancing and dance to every slow piece at dances. Every time I think about how close I was to meeting you and didn't, I get mad as I can. Maybe some day we will meet, at least I hope so.

Effie, I was wondering how you met my brother. He's never been to Chicago as far as I know. You say you wish you had a brother. When we were kids, there were times I wish I didn't have any brothers, but as we grew older, I realized what a brother is. I have two brothers, Bill and Bob who is married. I also have two sisters Catherine, married and Marcelina in high school.

We are having a dance on the campus Saturday, May 20, 1944 for the new company that is coming here from Great Lakes.

We certainly are having some warm weather lately. I feel so tired that I really appreciate the sound of the bugle one time a day and that is taps. Thanks for the luck you wished me in my homework for I know I will have luck when you wish me to.

Please don't feel bad, but I've decided the pictures that I had taken did not come out good enough to send to you, however, I will try again in the near future.

I hope to hear from you soon and know you will forgive me for taking so long to answer your letter. Closing now with regards and best wishes ^to^ you, your loved ones and friends.

Sincerely yours,
Victor

Envelope

Postmark: June 13, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S. Navy
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.

(Addressee) Miss Effie Shores
32-37 Ellis Ave
Chicago 16, Ill.

Inside Cover S.W.A.K.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 444 Pla. 3
U.S.N.T.S
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.

Dearest Effie,

I received your swell letter and was more than glad to hear from you. I will forgive you for taking so long to answer, because your heading of the letter was "Dearest Victor" (smile). Well, I guess I would have forgiven you any way but the heading did make me feel swell. So that's how you met my brother. I never thought of that. My idea was that you may have been visiting some one near his camp. You may think my sister, Marcelina is pretty, but I can tell you something that will make you think she is a very bad girl. However, I don't think I will. I hope you had a good time at the amusement park. Our amusement park here is the recreation building in which we play basket ball and go swimming in the swimming pool. (smile) Of course we got to the movie on Wednesdays and Saturdays, but that's all. I'll never forget the swell times I had at the worlds largest amusement park and that is Coney Island.

I think your girlfriend, Cookie is cute but she doesn't compare with you. I think you are very pretty.

Well Effie, I have about six more weeks here before I'll be shoving off to another base. I won't know where until the last few days and I'm very sorry to say, I know it won't be Great Lakes. Six weeks may seem like a long time to you, but time seems to fly by, here. I guess that's because we are kept busy all the time.

Closing now, hoping to hear from you soon. Sending best wishes to the family and regards to you.

Sincerely yours,
Victor

Envelope

Postmark: June 26 and July 1, 1944

(Sender) U.S. Navy Training School
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Virginia
(Addressee) Miss Effie Shores
32-37 Ellis Ave
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F2/c
Co. 4-44 Pla. 3
U.S.N.T.S
Hampton Institute
Hampton, Va.

Dearest Effie,

I received your sweet and most interesting letter and was very happy to hear from you. Yes, I do know what it means to have final exams. I have some coming up this week and they really have me worried. I hope you passed them all. I'll bet your glad school over for the summer. I remember how happy I was on the last day of school. It seems like a long time since I've been in High School but it was only last year, 1943.

I ^think^ that's swell, you being sponsor of a club. I don't think it's funny, but I couldn't help laughing a little bit (smile).

I didn't care for swimming before I entered the Navy because I couldn't swim a stroke but they gave us so many swimming lessons that I learned how to swim and now I love swimming. It's easy once you get use to the water.

Billy's address is –

P.A.C. William L. Brockenborough
#3296007
2143 A.A.F. Base Unit
Sect. C5 T.A.F.F.
Tuskegee, Ala.

If you say you don't want me talking about my sister, I won't only because you don't want me to.

Yes I do like cookies but I don't want you to go through any trouble sending me some. I noticed the S.W.A.K. on the envelope and I wish you would or shall I say could seal me with the same (smile). I'll be going home on the 6th or the 7th of July for a few days and will I be happy to see the family. Closing now with love and regards to you and the family.

Very Sincerely Yours,
Victor

P.S. My family has moved to another house. The address is
57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S. Brks 38 U.N.
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

July 16, 1944

Dearest Effie,

I arrived at my base safe and on time. I want to thank you and your mother for a really swell evening. I'm sending you a few pictures of my sister, Marcy but I'm keeping your picture. As I told you, I'll keep it until you have another one to give to me. Please don't be angry. I was allowed liberty tonight but due to financial difficulties and also due to a few letters home, I'm staying on the base. Expect to get paid this week so I'll probably be in Chicago this weekend.

Effie, this really is a fine base. I was working in one of the buildings on the Air Field and watched the planes take off and land. I was in the Recreational building and it is swell. We have a regular theater and some beautiful bowling allies. I wish you could see the base for yourself. I'm sure you would agree with me. The main reason I like Glenview is because it isn't far from Chicago and some mighty swell people.

Closing now hoping to hear from you soon.

Yours as ever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
July 25, 1944

My Dearest Effie,

I promised you I would write today so you see, I do keep promises. I received a letter from Billy today but it was an answer to my letter I wrote him before I left Hampton. It was addressed to Hampton so it took a few extra days to reach me. I found out the reason why my mail has been costing its receivers 3¢ postage. I put my return address on the wrong side of the envelope. I never thought of that but Billy told me in his letter. He is doing fine and expects his furlough to come through soon.

I also received a letter from my cousin. She sent me the pictures I was telling you about. Some of them didn't come out so good, especially the ones of me. However I shall bring them with me the next time I come to Chicago. I won't be in to see you for a while because I feel guilty of imposing too much upon your aunt and you. You know the other reason why I won't be at your house right away. I want to thank you for the swell time Monday, and Effie, you've made me very happy since I've been stationed here. Of course your letters alone keep my moral high, but since I've been seeing you, well, I don't know just how to express my feeling but it's more than a high moral. I hope you don't consider this as much because I really mean every word. Well, Effie I'm closing now, not only hoping to hear from you soon but knowing I will.

Yours as ever,
Victor

P.S. – Sending my best regards to your aunt and your grandmother. Don't forget to notice my address.

Envelope

Postmark: August 2, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec. Shop

Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores

32-33 Ellis Ave.

Chicago 16, Ill.

Inside Cover S.W.A.K.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec. Shop

Glenview, Ill.

My Dearest Effie,

As I promised I am writing you this very day (Tuesday). I'll never forget this morning, the 1st of August and I sincerely hope you won't either.

You told me to tell what happened today if I didn't know what to write so here is everything. I arrived back at Glenview from your house at about 3 A.M. I went right to bed and got up at 6 A.M. I washed up and went to chow or shall I say breakfast. I returned to the barracks and stood around until 7:20. I then went to work. I was thinking of you all day since I left you and I didn't know whether I was coming or going. I was also very tired but I managed to complete the day. Near lunch time I fell asleep in the shop and woke up at 1230. (smile) Half my lunch hour was gone so I ran to the chow hall ate and hurried back to work again. At 5 P.M., which is the end of my work day, I felt so tired I didn't feel like going to chow but I did and here I am writing you. I am going to write my mother and Billy as soon as I address this letter. Effie, this is the first time I ever wrote such a boring letter (I think) but please don't hold it against me. I promise to do better next time. Please tell your Grandmother and your Aunt I say hello and send my regards. Until I hear from you I'll close and remain –

Forever yours,

Victor

“Buenos Noches”

Envelope

Postmark: August 7, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec Shop

Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores

32-33 Ellis Ave.

Chicago 16, Ill.

Back S.W.A.K.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec. Shop

Glenview, Ill.

Dearest Effie,

I hope this letter finds you well and not sick as you always claim to be. (smile). I arrived here 0325, (Navy time) which is 3:25 A.M. Sunday morning.

You said you would throw some cold water in my face if you caught me napping but I don't think you would even after we are, well you know what I mean. I guess you won't know what to write in answer to this letter so here are a few things I'd like you to write beside your own ideas. Copy that poem we both read together, the one your friend told you to "learn to me." (smile) Tell me if you still feel the same about the things we were talking about Saturday night. Tell me also your correct age and how far you are in school or must I send home for your first letters.

I did what you told me darling. I washed all my dirty clothes and I'm now writing to you. I'll write mom when I am through. I am going to the movies on the station so don't worry about me going with anyone. I went to church or mass as you always correct me. Did I ever tell you I am the only colored boy at mass every Sunday. It may be that I'm the only Catholic negro here.

Darling I don't have to tell you how I feel about you in my letter for I've told you over and over and I'll always feel the same way. You mean everything to me Effie and always will. I guess I said about everything so I'll close now with love to you, your loved ones and friends.

Forever yours,

Victor

P.S. Tell Louise I say hello.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Cover S.W.A.K.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

8/14/44

Dearest Darling Effie,

Sorry to spoil our plans for this coming Sunday but I believe it is my turn. You didn't want to go last Sunday so now we're even, or are we? Some how I don't think you want to go at all. (smile) Your last was really swell but it lacked one thing that I always look for. The S.W.A.K. on the inside of the envelope. Maybe you don't love me anymore (smile). If you do love me Effie, answer this question truthfully, "Why do you love me." Before you answer this question, please give it a good thorough thought. Your answer, if a good reason, will prove something to someone. It is very important that I do prove that you are the one for me so please don't give me a fast answer.

Gosh is it hot today? I'm glad I didn't have much work to do because I didn't feel like doing anything. I was thinking about you all day, honest. I'll always love you Effie and no matter where I go or how long I'm away from you I'll never feel any different, believe me. Effie, I don't know what it was, but last night your kisses seemed different. They seemed alive, as if they were burning their way into my heart. I still can't understand why they were so sweet and tender last night. Don't get me wrong, your kisses are all always superior to any kiss I ever received. That is after mom (smile). But last night they were extra superior.

I know you are laughing now but I mean every word. I wish I could read the future and see if you will always love me as you say but I can't. All I can do is believe in you and trust you and you will have to do the same with me. Well darling I'll close now with love to you all and especially you.

Forever yours
Victor

Envelope

Postmark: August 22, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec Shop

Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores

32-33 Ellis Ave.

Chicago 16, Ill.

Inside Cover S.W.A.K.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec. Shop

Glenview, Ill.

My Dearest Effie,

I remembered you said you told your Aunt that I wouldn't come over any more because of the letter you wrote me. Well I knew you weren't very mad at me because your letter heading and salutation was the same as your other letters. Another thing was that you wanted me to come over. It seemed you were afraid I wouldn't come by the way you asked me if I were coming, but let's forget about that honey. It was really tough for both of us to say good night last Saturday and that means only one thing. That you and I belong together. As I told you that night Effie, please don't ever doubt my love for you. I didn't know what to think when you said you couldn't answer my question, "why do you love me," but now I'm sure you do and I'll never have any question in my mind as to your love for me until you tell me you don't love me.

I haven't received any mail at all since I got your last letter. I wonder what's going on home that they can't drop me a line. I'm going to make a long distance phone call tonight to find out. I wrote Billy last Friday so I'm expecting a letter from him soon.

I hope when this letter arrives, it will find Barry well out of bed. Tell him I say hello and won't forget the Sailor hat. I'll also bring the book with me if I don't lose my memory (smile). Well, dear, I'll close now with love to the family and my special love to you.

Yours forever,

Victor

P.S. I'd still like to know what S.W.A.S. means.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Inside Cover S.W.O.M.K.

Back Tel. Victory 4955 in case

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

8/27/44

My Dearest Effie,

I promised to answer your letter Saturday night but I started washing some clothes and didn't get through until 9:15. It was too late to write then so I am writing you now which is Sunday afternoon. I haven't any work right now so I am using the time for something I love to do and that is to write you. Your letter was very sweet and it made me very happy. You aren't old fashion just because you'd rather stay at home because I'd also rather hold you in my arms all evening than to go anywhere. Everything you said is the same way I feel. I don't have to tell you how much I love you because if you don't know now, you never will know.

I know you love me, not only because you told me so, but because I saw tears in your eyes as we said good night the last few times I was there. You also told me you cried last Friday morning after I left. These things mean one thing, that you do love me very much. Effie, no matter what I do, please trust and believe in me. I may have said this before but I'm saying it again to make sure you understand what I mean.

Well sweetheart, I'll close now with love to the family and my special love to you. Tell Barry I say hello and hope he gets well real soon.

Forever yours
Victor

I'L.B.C.N.U.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Cover S.W.A.K.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

8/31/44

My Dearest Effie,

I received your letter today and although short, it was very sweet. I guess you are still wondering what "S.W.O.M.K." means. It means the same as your "S.W. 1000 K." meant except that it's the abbreviation of 1,000,000 (one million). As for I'L.B.C.N.U. it means just what it says "I'll be seeing you." You pronounce "ing" as "en."

Honey, I decided not to try to get the lipstick out of my hankie because someday I know I will leave the vicinity of Chicago and may not see you for a long time. I want it to remember the swellest girl in the world and to remind me that this girl will be mine for keeps.

I loved your letter except for one thing. You close with "yours until you don't want me." I'll always want you Effie because I know you love me as much as I love you and that is more than words can tell. The more I see you the greater my love for you grows. There is only one thing, I'm afraid will interfere with our love. I'd rather not mention in this letter as it might spoil the happiness that I'm hoping this letter brings to you.

The lipstick came out of my jumper I think but I still feel the warmth of your kisses in my heart, for I love so very much. Closing now with love to all.

Yours as ever,
Victor

(excuse writing please. I haven't time to copy it over)

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Cover S.W.A.K.A.
A.H.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

Sept. 6+7, 1944

My Dearest Effie,

I really don't know what to write but I'll try to make this letter interesting by starting with "I loved you when I met you, do now and always will." Every time I think of you and I being Mr. and Mrs. It seems so far away. Sometimes I wonder if I can wait that long and why can't I marry you now, but the right answer always comes to me soon after those thoughts. I couldn't think of you quitting school and I know that you wouldn't give it a thought either. I've had most of my dreams come true but this one just has to, and that is for you to be my wife.

I wonder what that brother of mine is doing to keep him so busy that he can't write me a few lines. If he doesn't write soon I'm going to send him a letter that will make him feel ashamed of himself. Well honey, this is where I left off yesterday, so I will continue and answer your letter. Sweetheart, I didn't mean you were childish in many ways nor did I say so. The only time I thought of you being childish was that night the boy put his arms around you. I must admit that I didn't see him do it with my own eyes because Johnny called me to the door too late and I'm kind of glad he did. But that wasn't what made me angry that night. It was because I overheard your aunt and Johnny talking which got me wise to the fact that the same thing happened more than once. When I think of how I acted, I realize how silly I was. That was a childish act on my part. I forgive you whole heartedly and I know you forgive me. I do believe you love me Effie and I don't know why I keep asking you if you do.

I certainly turned out to be a swell day. I thought I'd freeze this morning but the sun was hot in the afternoon. We didn't have much work today, so I took it easy a good part of the afternoon.

I expecting a letter from home soon for it's been some time since I received one. Effie, do you know I was very disappointed today? I asked the fellow in charge of the Electric Shop if I had any mail, expecting to receive your letter. Well he told me I didn't have any. I was almost discouraged but I decided to find out what happened to your letter so I spoke to one of the fellows who sorts the mail for the different shops and he told me I had one yesterday. I went back to the fellow in charge of my shop and he had the letter in his hand and was coming to give it to me. Did I feel better the rest of the day. I read it over and over as I do all your letters. They may not be long but they are always sweet and what I do love to read. Right now I am one of the happiest fellows in the world, because I have you and

consider myself a mighty lucky guy. Effie, you may think I'm trying to convince myself that I love you because I tell you so many times but believe me when I say my heart which is now in your possession has convinced me a long time ago. I will close now with love to you, your loved ones and friends.

Forever yours,

Victor

P.S. I love you. Hope this letter is long enough. So long for now sweetheart.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Cover S.W.O.O.K.
(smile)

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

9/14/44

My Darling Effie,

As you know I received your letter and as all the others, it was very sweet. I just came on watch after finishing "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come" and Effie, it was one of the best books I had ever read. I want to thank you for picking it out for me and letting me read it.

Now I'd like to talk or shall I say write about you and I. You said suppose my mother does not approve of you and I marrying so young and do I think we are too young? Well here is my answer from my heart. I love you so very much Effie, that nothing in the the world could stop me from marrying you, that is if you will still have me when the time comes. Although I believe it would be wrong to marry you if mom disapproved, I'd marry you just the same believe me. Mom has always sort of let us, (the rest of the family and I) have our own way with one thought in her mind and that is happiness for us all so I'm sure she will not interfere with our happiness. When I go home I will have a heart to heart talk with mom and I'm sure the outcome will not spoil our future plans. I do not think we are to young and though I want you to be my wife right now, I'd rather see you finish school. The time will give you a

chance to think over the meaning and seriousness of matrimony. As for me. I know I want you, and knew since the first time I held you in my arms and kissed you. I want you to think these things over. I have nothing to offer you, Effie, nothing but love and a promise to work and slave for you as long as we are both on this earth. You can make plans for both of us for anything you want to do is what I want to do. We can make plans together while I am with you but when the time comes when I must leave here, you must do the planning for I will be thinking of you every moment and will be looking forward to being with you again for good. I'll never fall in love with any other girl no matter where I may be. No one can ever take your place, ever. Every word of this letter is from the depth of my heart. Believe me, even the following. I believe you do love me the same and love like ours can mean nothing but a marriage of happiness and ever lasting. I will close now sending love to all especially to you.

Forever yours

Victor

P.S. – Excuse mistakes and you must for it ^is^ all your fault but if you'd rather, you can take them for kisses.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Cover S.W.A.K.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

9/24/44

My Dearest Effie,

How is my "wife-to-be" today? Guess what. I am not on watch from 12 to 4. It was changed and I have the 8 to 12 shift. It is now about 20 min to 4 on Sunday eve. I have no work to do now so I thought I'd write you now instead of waiting until tonight.

Honey, my Sunday wasn't spoiled last week, honest. Just being with you is the best Sunday in the world and nothing can spoil that day. You know I want to marry you terribly and I believe even more than you want to marry me so why ask if Dec. is too soon. If you had asked me to marry you, which isn't proper for a girl to propose but has been done before, the second time we met I'd have said yes only too eagerly.

I love you more than anything in this war torn world and nothing could change my feelings but you, and that would only be by you telling me you don't love me. Even then I would love you but with a broken heart that could never be mended. As it stands now, I know you love me with your whole heart and although I say things that make you think I don't believe you do love me, it's just to make certain that our marriage will stick, will bring happiness to you and will never make us feel sorry we did get married.

Sweetheart, what I started to tell you last Saturday is this. The rings I had picked out aren't real expensive, but they aren't what I'd call cheap. They are made of solid white gold and have genuine diamonds in both. I know you will love them because I do and you always did agree with me as far as beautiful things go. There is another subject I'd like to talk to you about but on second thought, I think it would be best to tell you in person instead of by mail. It's just a little thing so don't start getting excited because I didn't tell you what. We have about 2 ½ months more to make plans and get through the red tape, that is unless you change your mind and want to finish school first, which I hope you don't. I'll close now sweetheart, with love as always and increasing by the minute.

Forever yours
Victor

"Ya te amo"

P.S. in case you've forgotten my address its 57-50 Granger St. Corona, N.Y.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

Oct. 1, 1944

My Dearest Effie,

I received your sweet card today which is my Birthday. I miss you Effie, so very, very much. In a way I'm glad to be home so I could get away from the Base for a while but I'm very sorry because you are so far away and not with me. I've been thinking of you every minute and am very anxious to receive your letter. I'm so impatient that I decided to write you.

Sweetheart, don't laugh, but I sleep with your picture under my pillow and think of you right up to the time I shut my eyes. Marcy was playing "I can't see for looking" on our Victrola and said I look homesick. I guess I did because every time I hear that song I think of the time you sang it to me, to give me an idea how the song went.

Effie, was mom surprised. Carolyn was out on the porch and saw me coming. She wasn't sure it was me until I waved to her. Then she came running. She went upstairs first and I sneaked in behind her. Mom was busy in the kitchen and when I peeked in she gave out a yell and I thought she was going to faint, she so happy to see me. Marcy was in the bedroom and came running out, threw her arms around me and started kissing me before I could let mom go. Kate got home from work soon after and the same thing happened. She said my little brother is home. Kate gave me \$5 for my birthday and told me they had sent me a package. My pal gave me this Saturday because I didn't write him since I've been at Glenview. (smile)

I hope and pray this letter finds you and the family well. I don't know what else to say sweetheart except that I love you more than ever and aside from not having you with me, I'm having a fairly good time. I will close now with love to the family and all the love in the world to you.

Forever yours
Victor

P.S. - "ya. Te. Amo." And always will.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

10/25/44

Dearest Effie,

As I promised I am writing you but I am a day late. I hope you will forgive me for I didn't quite feel like myself Monday night and Tuesday morning. However Tuesday night there was no flying so my friend Miller and I went to work at Railway Express. It wasn't a bad job unloading packages from the trucks but the hours seemed to be extra long. I made \$6.22 for 7 hrs and 20 min. of work. We weren't the only service men working there. Other Sailors, Soldiers and Marines were also working and a bunch of service men left soon after we arrived. They had been working during the day, I believe from 4P.M. to 12 midnight.

By the way honey. I have been transferred from Public Works and now work in a different department. You can still write to the same address and I'll let you know if it changes. I still work on the light truck at nights.

I love you Effie as I always will, with my love for you growing even greater every moment we are apart and every moment we are together. I know you are still wondering why I tell you I love you so much, but I'll bet anything if I didn't tell you in my letter or when I'm with you, you would wonder what was wrong and think I didn't love you anymore, wouldn't you? Don't say you wouldn't because then I'd say you don't love me and don't care whether I love you or not. But I do love you Effie and that's all there is to it. I'll keep on telling you I love you, before we're married, after we're married and if you don't believe me then, well you won't be able to say I didn't try to convince you. Closing now with love you all, especially you.

Yours as ever,
Victor

Envelope

Postmark: October 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

57-50 Granger St.

Corona, N.Y.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores

32-33 Ellis Ave.

Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec. Shop

Glenview, Ill.

My Dearest Effie,

I received your letter and was very happy to hear from you as I was getting impatient. I guess you have received my first letter by now so you know I do love you as much as I did before and more. I was a bit surprised when I read that question asking me if I still love you. It started me thinking. Maybe you don't love me as you say for things like that do happen when the ones in love are apart. Please Effie, believe me, I do love you and as I said before, nothing in the world can change my love for you. But if there is any doubt in your heart as to your love for me, let me know before it is too late.

Sweetheart you don't have to answer this letter for I'll be back before it reaches here. I miss you dear and will be glad to get back. Don't forget what I said above and please be honest with me.

I came down in a swell train and hope I can ride in such comfort back to Chi. I had a seat all the way for I was one of the first persons to board the train.

Kate promised to have some ^pictures^ taken of herself and Carolyn. I almost forgot to tell her but she read your letter and made the promise. I noticed you used the word "darling" in your letter. I'll close now darling with love to all and my special love to you.

Yours as ever,

Victor

P.S. – "ya.te.Amo" very very much. And will see you soon darling.

Envelope

Postmark: November 3, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Back T.M.F.W.
S.W.A.K

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

My Dearest Effie,

I couldn't wait until tomorrow to write so I am taking a little of my sleeping time to write you. I just came from the movie and it was a swell picture. The name of it was "The Merry Monahans" with Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan and Jack Oakie. I do remember saying "I didn't know if you loved me," but I believe you do now. I guess I only said that because it's really too good to be true. You so sweet and pretty, honest, I don't deserve you. If you are willing have and marry me, I'm only too willing to let you because I love you with all my heart. About the kisses. I believe that little misunderstanding was my fault I do kiss you entirely too much. I'll try to cut down on them but it's tough Effie, for every time I look at you I want to kiss you. As I said before, I dreamed of a girl like you and I still can't believe my dream has come true.

I guess I have been a little lonely too, sweetheart, but I wasn't so lonely that I'd want to marry any girl I met. These words are from my heart with all the sincereness in the world. Please don't say "Are you kidding" when I say you are sweet and pretty, just this once, and take it from my heart to yours. I want you to be conceited just this once because you really have nothing to be conceited about. You are sweet, you are pretty.

Now to get off seriousness for a while. Do you know how you spelled "lonely" twice and "maybe" once. Like this, "loney" and this "may." I do forgive you for the mistakes because I wouldn't be surprised if you found the same kind of mistakes in this letter. I'd like to write a joke I saw in a magazine. It goes –

He mumbled a [^]few[^] words in church
He was married
He mumbled a few words in his sleep
He was divorced

By the way darling, I hope you don't think I have forgotten about the picture you promised me because I haven't. I'll give you one week. If you don't give me one by then, I will refrain from calling you up. Is that clear? Or should I refrain from seeing you for 3 or 4 weeks, if I can keep away from you that long (smile). But no kidding honey you promised me and I'll expect you to keep your promise. I guess I'll have to bring

this letter to a close, sweetheart for as you have seen, it was difficulty to get these pages in the envelope. I won't say I love you because you already know I do, so close by just saying –

Yours forever and ever,

Victor

P.S. Give my regards to Granny, Mr. and Mrs. Batson and the rest of the family.

Envelope

(Sender) Ms. Catherine Banks
57-50 Granger St.
Corona, L.I.
(Addressee) Victor Brockenborough P 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shope
Glenview, Ill.

Correspondence

11/9/44

My Dearest Brother

I received your lovely letter and as always I was very happy to hear from you and that you are well and so is Effie. I also received a letter from Effie which I enjoyed reading very much and tell her I will answer her soon, but honest Victor deeda I've been so very busy. I'm sorry you didn't like the pictures but however I'm going to have some real good ones made and send them.

Uncle Eddie and his wife is up again with us. They came up Monday and will be here for a couple of weeks I guess. They both send their love. Doris couldn't come on account of being in school and Uncle Eddie says she was having a fit to come.

Glad to hear that things are running pretty smooth and I pray that It will continue to do so for a while yet.

Have you heard from Bill recently? I heard from him last week. He said he had been into Atlanta and met a fine chick and told me to keep my eyes ready for progressing results concerning her (smile).

Well Vic I did go horseback riding and it was really grand. I enjoyed it more than I thought I would and wasn't half as scared, but oh was I sore the next day. Yes indeed I was "smile"

Well I must close for now with you always in my heart and prayers. Write soon. All send love. Please excuse all mistakes.

Your sister (big)

Kate

Envelope

Postmark: November 15, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Back S.W.A.B.K.
T.M.W.T.B.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

Dearest Effie,

I enjoyed reading your letter very, very much and if you enjoy mine as well, I'll know my letters are not boring. Do you remember the part in your letter that goes – "you are near and yet you seemed so far away."? Well I don't think you are silly because I some times feel the same way. But honey, if you think marrying me will make that feeling disappear forever, I'm afraid your mistaken. As long as I'm in the Navy and there's a chance of me being shipped out either to another base or on a ship, that feeling will still come to us both occasionally. As I said Effie, I will marry you whenever you want to get married and I mean it. I'm tired of waiting and I hope you are also. I'll not listen to anymore of your talk about how bad you sleep because I believe our financial standings when I do get out of the Navy may not even allow us to buy one bed. (smile)

As I told you I received a letter from Kate. She told me she received your letter and will answer soon. Kate promised to have some good pictures made soon and will send them to me. My Uncle from S.C. and his wife are at my house in N.Y. again, but my cousin Doris, their step-daughter, is still in Charleston due to school. Sis says she was having a fit to come to N.Y. according to my Uncle. Did I tell you Kate was going horseback riding and I told her I hoped she doesn't get so sore that she can't sit down for a week! Well she did go. She said she enjoyed riding more than she thought she would but was she sore the next day. She heard from Billy last week. He told her he had been into Atlanta and met a fine chick (girl) and that she should keep her eyes open for progressing results concerning here. I don't know exactly what he means but I reckon that's why he hasn't written me. He always tells me to write soon and he takes his sweet time writing me. Darling, I won't keep you waiting to find out what I made so I'll tell you. Remember some time ago I said I wanted one of those identification bracelets that men in the service wear. Well I don't any more. I made one and is it a honey. I also made the chain and all I need now is a clip to fasten the chain ends around my arm. I'm going to try and make one. Wait until you see it. You won't believe I made it, I hardly do myself. Well sweetheart, it's almost 9:30 so I'll close before the lights are put out. Give my regards to the family and please accept my love to you.

With more love than ever,
I remain yours, Victor

Envelope

Postmark: November 23, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec Shop

Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores

32-33 Ellis Ave.

Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec. Shop

Glenview, Ill.

Dearest Effie,

I have just gotten back from the basket ball game and I'm writing as I promised. It was a swell game, mostly because we beat Great Lakes Hospital team, 55 to 43. Effie, I'm kind of sorry to hear you say you don't like the new girl in your class just because she came from an all girl school. I don't think it's fair, if that's the only reason. I'll bet you didn't even give her a chance to prove she can be liked by you and your friends. Every one has their own ideas and feelings but I don't believe in judging whether I like a person or not by just looking at them or by the way others feel. Some of the best of friends develop from each person disliking the other. Give her a chance and let me know if you still dislike her in a month or two.

Dec. 16 is alright with me if you want to get married on that day, but sweetheart, don't tell anyone yet nor set your heart on it because it's so hard to tell what might happen between now and then.

I told you I received a letter from my brother Bobby and one from his wife. They were both swell, especially Bobby's. I think it was the best letter I ever received from home, or one of the best. I still haven't heard from Billy so I guess I better write him again as soon as I can get a little time.

Honey, you always say you don't know what to write and neither do I. I may write you three to five pages but it's really nothing. The only thing I know to write you is that I love you more than anything in the world and I hope it means as much to you to read it as it does to me to write it. Darling, now that I'm positive you do love me and want me as your husband, I feel I can tell you how I've felt for some time. If I don't marry you Effie I never will get married.

I love you so very much darling that I'd rather be dead if I can't have you as my wife. This is the truth so don't worry about losing me if something should come up before we do get married. You couldn't even lose me if you wanted to.

I received another letter from Gloria, the girl in Corona, N.Y. whose letter I let you read some time ago. She would like to see a picture of you so if you don't have one made soon, I'll be forced to send her the one I have. She also told me to give you her love, a hug and a kiss so remind me to give you a special hug and kiss when I see you. Well dear, I guess that's about everything except that I miss you terribly and I keep wondering if I'll be able to take it when the time comes for me to leave Glenview. But

right now I want to forget about that so that the happiness we have now, together, will last throughout the time we will be apart. I'll close now with my love to the family and I'll also love you always.

Forever and ever,

Victor

P.S. – So Barry can iron? Tell him if he likes to wash clothes I can use him here (smile).

Envelope

Postmark: December 14, 1944

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec Shop

Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores

32-33 Ellis Ave.

Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Victor Brockenborough F 1/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec. Shop

Glenview, Ill.

My Dearest Effie,

I guess you are saying it's about time I answered your letter and I don't blame you. As I told you, I'm kept pretty busy now with basket ball practice and other activities on the base but darling, don't you think for one minute, that my love for you is slacking because it isn't. I love you more than ever will continue to love you even more. As long as I know or think you love me, I'll never try to stop loving you and if we don't get married now or before this war is over, please remember this. You will always be in my heart and they'll never be room for any one else. You'll never lose me Effie and I know you will wait for me. I'm still for marrying you now, but I believe I know why you aren't so anxious now. My religion is about the only thing holding us up and I'll agree with anyone that says the Catholic religion is a whole lot of Red Tape as far as getting married is concerned. All I want is you Effie not a lot of preaching and discouraging words saying we're too young to get married. I've made up my mind some time ago, even

if I have to give up my Religion, but if possible, I want to marry you and remain a Catholic for I believe it's the best Religion in the world.

I guess I've bored you long enough with religion so lets change the subject. How do you like this snow. I haven't had a shovel in my hands yet and I hope I won't get any. It started snowing about Saturday and the trucks on my base are still hauling snow of the runways.

Effie are you going to have some pictures made or shall I show my friends the one I have. I'm serious now. I've been after you for a long time now and if you do love as you say and as much as I believe you do, you would do this small thing for me. A good picture of you would make the swellest Christmas present I ever received. So Effie if you don't have at least one picture for me by Christmas, and I'm not kidding I'll know you don't love me or care for me enough to do this small thing. I know you wouldn't want a picture to come between us and it isn't to prove you love me, but to erase all doubt from my mind, because I know how much you hate to have pictures taken. I guess that's about everything for now. I still have about 7 or 8 letters to answer and I don't think I can answer them before Sunday. I have some Kleenex for you and will bring it with me when I come in Friday night. Oh yes! I'll need the fourty dollars Saturday. I'm almost broke and we don't get paid until Wednesday of next week. Closing now with all my love to you and the family.

Loving you always,
Victor

Envelope

(Addressee) Miss Effie Shores
32 33 Ellis Ave
Chicago Ill

Correspondence

Harts Horne Okla
1-11-1945

Gran Daughter

I received your letter and was glad to hear from you and family and glad you all had a nice Christmas and hope you had a nice New Year. This leaves me and family getting along plenty good. I had a touch of flu Effie you ast me about you getting married. If you real like you wants to get married I have nothing to say agints it because you no moore about you life than I do. I can wish you a nise marriage and if you do wait an let me no because som of your friends wants to sind you some presents so I will close hoping to hear from you soon.

From Embry Shores

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

March 27, 1945

Dearest Effie,

I will start this letter by saying I love you from the bottom of my heart. I know you have doubt in your mind whether I do or not, and if anyone did to me what I did to you, I don't believe I'd love that person anymore. However I know you still love me because you're just the swell type of girl that would love a person no matter what he did as long as he still loves you. Effie, I miss you terribly, that's why I wanted to see you one day this week. I didn't have you to myself very much last Sunday. I love you as much as ever, honey, if not more and I want you to love me. Of course I haven't changed my mind about getting married and I won't until this war is over and I know I can support you myself. If you love me as much as you say, you'll have patience and wait for me.

I hope you enjoyed yourself Sunday at my base. I'm sorry there aren't more means of entertainment but I'm just a sailor and if I tried to produce more, I'd just be wasting my time for I haven't the backing the Admiral has. I say I hope you enjoyed yourself because I'm still in doubt. You didn't act like it while here but said you did at home so I'm sort of in between. Anyway, I know I was overjoyed at having you three visit me, especially you. Maybe you'll change your mind about coming again and I'll be only to glad to have you.

I went to the movie Monday night and saw "God is my Co-Pilot" and believe me it was good. Tell Johnny and Barry not to miss that picture for I know they'll enjoy it being that they love air planes so much. Well honey, it time to close my letter now so until I see or hear from you again, so long. I remain

—

Loving you as ever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Cover S.W.A.K.

Correspondence

May 31, 1945

Dearest Darling Effie,

I don't know exactly what to say because I don't think you would believe me. I'll start by saying I will be in Friday Night and if you'll allow me, I'll stay through Saturday. I don't know to ask you or if I should even try to ask you to forgive me. I've never been so wrong in my life as I have in the last three weeks. There is so much I'd like to say but every thing is so very mixed up right now that I don't know where to begin. I'll try to explain when I see you and all I ask is that you believe me.

Do you remember what I've told you so many times, that no matter what happens, I'll always love you with all my heart. Well, I didn't just say that to hear myself talk. I meant it Effie, every word. I realized the mistake I made soon after our last phone call but I felt so ashamed of my self and I guess my pride was also to blame for my not communicating with you first. I was never so glad or happy to receive a letter as I was when your letter arrived. I'm pleading with you Effie. Love me as you always did and I promise never to let anything like this happen again. I'm closing now darling until I see you Friday. I remain -

Yours as ever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Back S.W.L.O.K.

Correspondence

July 17, 1945

Dearest Sweet Effie,

Just a few lines to let you know I still love you in spite of the way I acted last Sunday night. I guess I acted that way because I wasn't feeling my best due to that irritating cold. If you remember and believe what I told you about, no matter what I did or say I will always love you, you should have forgiven me already. I know you must be tired of me doing such things and asking for forgiveness I don't know why you put up ~~for~~ with me, for I really don't deserve your love and sweetness. I promise to do better in the future.

I have some more Kleenex for you and I'll bring some in my next visit. I also have something to show you that my sister Kate sent me. It's something I've been after her for when I was home on leave last. I told you what it was so see if you can guess what it is.

By the ~~th~~ way dear, in your letter you said "I don't mind being the only girl with two handsome service men and knowing that I love both of them." I don't mind you saying we're handsome, which may be true for Billy, but when you say you love both and not expressing that you love me more, I object. (smile) After all, I'm not the one that saw you in the _____ so you may have changed your mind about whom you love most (smile). All kidding aside honey, I know you love me and if you didn't, I love you enough for both of us. Honest sweet, I mean when I say you are pretty, wonderful, sweet and everything else. I can hear you saying "don't be silly Victor" or "Deeda" but it's a fact and you can't call facts lies. I'll ~~prop~~ probably call you up before you receive this letter so I'll tell you when I'll be in again.

As for getting married before the end of the war, the answer is definitely no. We can be happy married or unmarried as long as you love me and I love you. The later will be forever. You've got to understand and you will if I have to beat hell out of you. So long for now my dear. I remain –

Your lover forever,
Victor Deeda

P.S. Take mistakes for kisses and correct spelling for love.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Cover S.W.A.M.L.

Correspondence

July 22, 1945

Dearest Darling Effie,

I know you had doubt in your mind when I told you the reason why I couldn't come in today but, if I ever told the truth, that was it. Effie believe me. I never lied to you. I may have made you believe something that wasn't true but I never lied to you. You look back and if you find one time I lied, tell me, and I'll prove to you I didn't lie. I know I've caused you heart aches and I've treated you so unfair but it just to assure your love for me. You must know I love you or you wouldn't put up with me for so long. I'm going to tell you what happen but please keep it to yourself Effie. As you know I stood one Fire Watch which I missed muster for. It was a 4 to 8 watch. Well the girl that takes care of the watch list told me I'd have to stand one more and it would be the watch ahead, 12 to 4. Well I signed the sheet not looking at the time which was a very dumb thing for me to do. I was so sure I'd have the 12 to 4 watch. It so happened that I had the 8 to 12 watch. I stood in the barracks all evening planning on going to sleep later to be awakened at the right time to stand watch. I got a call about 9 o'clock from my chief telling me I had the 8 to 12. I rushed out of the barracks to the Officer of the Days office. By the time he got transportation to take me to my post it was 9:30. That made me an hour and a half late for Fire Watch I have to go to Captain's Mast again in the morning. I told you about the three months warning so there's no telling what might happen. I've come to the point where I don't care anymore. All I want to do is get out of the Navy. I'll let you know how I make out. It can be one of three thing, restriction, extra duty, or the well known brig. I'm just hoping it's one of the first two if anything. Pray for ^me^ Effie darling for I'll be doing my share. I love you Effie as I've told you over and over. I'll always love you as long as I live. You've just got to believe me and we will get married someday. I'll close now for it time for lights out. I remain –

Yours forever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

July 27, 1945

Darling Effie,

How are you my sweet? I miss you terribly and can hardly wait to see you again. I don't know much of anything to write about but I will tell you the little I do know. I haven't heard from Billy as yet and I don't soon there'll be a fight between a Sailor and a Soldier. You know who will win of course, me. I'm bigger and heavier than Billy is as you already know. I received a letter from Kate and Mom last week and they were both swell. They commented me on my beautiful letter describing my meeting Billy and how we spent the day and a half. Kate said it was the best letter she ever read including her husbands letters. Mom said Dad even agreed that it was a very well written letter. It made me very happy for I never knew I could write a letter that good. How did you like those hot days we had. I wish I were you. I'd just go to the nearest pool and stay in the water all day long. Of course I know you didn't do that because you're afraid of water. (smile) just 3 more days to go honey and I'll be able to hold you in my arms once more.

Effie give the enclosed pictures to Johnny and tell him they're from me. Tell everyone I say hello and I'll be seeing them soon. I remain –

Yours forever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Aug 13, 1945

Dearest Darling Effie,

I arrived safe but the train ride wasn't so good, infact it was disgusting but I tell you about that some other time. Right now I want you to know that I miss you terribly. I wish you had come with me. I love you more than ever. "Homeward Bound" was just playing on the Victrola and now "I was here when you left me" is playing. Both of them concern you and I. The first is me coming back to you and the second is you being there when I get back. Marcy thinks you are a little selfish to want me back so soon. She says you've seen me more than she has since I've been in the Navy. But I still in doubt as to whether I'll break my promise to you or not. If I do, I know you will understand sweetheart for you always do. It's pretty hot here and I don't feel like doing anything I haven't been to see my brother and Sister in Law yet. I also have to see two other families in the City who use to live in Corona but moved.

How is everyone there? Give my love to Granny, Aunt Edith, Uncle John, the boys and Louise. I think of you constantly my sweet and hope you miss me a little.

Did Billy come in last Saturday? I hope he did and was as disappointed as I was when he didn't show up. Well my sweet, I'll close for now and pray you are well. I only wish I could express my love to you with more than words but at this time it can't be done because you there and I'm here. I do love you so terribly much Effie. I remain –

Your ever loving
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Sept 27, 1945

My Dearest Effie,

I hope this letter finds you and the family in the best of health and spirit. I really don't know what to say because at this time I'm not prepared to make any definite decisions. By this I'm referring to marriage. As I told you again and again, I'll always love you and, as a few other things, you don't understand. Of course from my actions I couldn't blame you for anything you thought. I don't know what's gotten into me but whatever it is I'm sure it will get out of me in due time.

Effie darling, I really can't think of anything I need and don't want you to go through a lot of trouble trying to get me something. I already have a traveling bag so that's out. I got a pretty decent one, in fact it was just the type I wanted, Wednesday.

Effie once you mentioned me putting a car before you. That's one of the things you don't seem to understand. I believe I told you why, because it's something I've just got to have. You know as well as I do that I wouldn't be able to get one if we got married first. You've got to understand.

By the way I just thought a swell birthday present you can give me. You should know what it is but if it's slipped your mind, a picture of you. If you haven't any I'll give you 2 weeks to get one (1). What I said about the picture still goes. Don't expect to see me again if I leave without one. I'll close now with love to you and the family. I remain –

Yours as ever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Oct. 15, 1945

Dear Darling Effie,

How are you my sweet? I guess you are surprised to receive a letter from me but I just had to write you before you get another silly idea that I don't love you. However, I'm not going to you a long letter because I know you must be tired of my lines. Notice I said lines and not lies. (smile) Now I'll give you the theoretical difference between lies + lines. Lies as you know are things untrue or false but lines are things that are true but said over and over again until they seem like lies. For instance I tell you I love you over and over and yet you aren't sure. If I said I didn't love you, you would know it was a lie wouldn't you? Well so much for that. Darling, I'll see you Friday and if the Batsons feel like playing Po-keeno (I know it's spelled wrong but I want you to know what I'm talking about) it's okay with me unless you have other plans. I close now my sweet for any letter is twice as long as your letter already. I remain

—

Your everlasting sweetheart
Victor

(over)

P.S. Enclosed is a token I thought you might like to comfort you when you get homesick (smile)

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Back *Heart with an arrow through it with V. E.*
I.L.Y.

Correspondence

Oct. 17, 1945

Hi Effie Darling,

I know I owe you more than one letter so I thought I'd write you another in order to catch up. I'm doing fine and hope you are all doing the same.

I've certainly been having an exciting time these last three days. I've been driving a semi truck to Chicago + returning with a load of large steel bars. Each load, of seven bars, weighed about 12 tons. We had to go all the way to 7900 South West Chicago near Cicero to one of the Dodge plants of the Chrysler corporation. It really was exciting driving such a large truck that long distance. I'll tell you more about it when I see you which should be the same day you receive this letter. By the way, I'm letting you know now that I won't be in the 27 of Oct which is on a Saturday. Well my sweet I'll close now still loving you as much as ever. Give my love to the family. I remain –

Your ever loving bean,
Victor

Envelope

Postmark: November 1, 1945

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c

U.S.N.A.S.

P.W. Elec. Shop

Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores

32-33 Ellis Ave.

Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

Dearest Effie,

How are you my sweet. I am just writing a few lines to let you know how I am getting along. I hope you won't be too disappointed when you read the following line. I don't know for sure whether I will be in Saturday or Sunday. You see I am in Sick Bay at the present and don't know when I will be out. I didn't feel very well since Tuesday morning. I had a headache, sore throat and a chill all day so I checked in at sick bay Wednesday morning. What I can't understand is how can any one stick a thermometer in your mouth and say you've got cat fever. Any way, that's what happened.

Darling, thanks ever so much for the picture. It's really as beautiful as you are. I looked at it until I fell asleep both Monday and Tuesday. Although I received it quite a long time after I asked for it I appreciate it more than you can imagine. I wish I had it here with me now for I'm sure I'd be well in no time at all. I am feeling a little better so I believe I'm on my way to recovery. I was feeling the color of this ink yesterday for red is the sign of heat as you should know. Well dear I'll close now with all my love. Give my love and blessings to the family.

Yours ever loving,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Back S.W.A.H.M.K.

11/6/45

Dearest Effie,

How are you my sweet? I hope you're as fine as I am for I feel great. Your sore throat should be over or well by the time you receive this letter, at least I'm hoping it is. I am writing this letter with your picture in front of me. Darling you are very pretty and the more I look at you the more I think so. It's about 12:20 right now for you see I'm writing during my lunch hour. It's the first time I've ever been able to write such a short time. I just dropped mom a short letter letting her know I'm out of Sick Bay. Well dear I'm getting like you now, I can't think of anything else to write about so I'll have to cut this letter short. I do love you no matter what you think now or in the future. I remain –

Yours as ever,
Victor

P.S. By the way I just remembered a few things in your letter to me that I'd like to write about. One is, you mentioned that I ought to see you with watery eyes and nose. I don't think I would change my mind about you being beautiful. No matter what you have, you can't ~~that~~ take beauty away from you for it is there permanently. The other was this. You said that if you could have two things on ~~the~~ your mind at present, everything would be perfect. What were they? I have an idea what one is but haven't the slightest idea about the other.

Love, Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

11/14/45

Dearest Effie,

I guess you're wondering if I'm going to write you this week for it's so far gone but I promised to write, so here you are. I am fine and couldn't be in better spirits, that is considering the fact that I'm still in the Navy. I still do not believe you are so much against school as you say. Any one that can talk about school and the things that go on there as much as you do, just can't be as disgusted of school as you say you are. I realize it is boring and tiresome at times, because I've gone through all that myself. But I also realize that as long as your grades are up and everything is going just fine in school, you love and adore school. That I have also gone through and had the same feeling. When things get tough, naturally you'll feel the opposite. What happened to my brother ^Bobby^ will never happen to my children. Like many other things, going through school may seem tough and disgusting but when you're through you feel proud and happy. ~~You~~ You realize then that you have accomplished something that was well worth the work, effort and time you use to see you through. I didn't mean this to seem like I was preaching or trying to tell you what to do, for I know you have a mind of your own, but I wrote to start you thinking so you won't be sorry some day.

I haven't heard from Bill yet but I will let you know when I do and I'll give you his address. I forgot to ask you to sing that song of Fred Waring's, "This is my Country," so when I come in Friday, which should be tonight, remind me to remind you to sing it for me. (smile) You mentioned in your letter that you found your other proofs. I don't now which ones you mean so you can enlighten me to the right ones when I come in also. Remind me to remind you (smile). As far as Kleenex is concerned, "so far, no good." Give my love to all and take some for your self. (smile) I remain –

Yours everlasting,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Back S.W.O.O.K.

Correspondence

12/4/45

Hi Sweetheart,

I received your letter as you said I would although it didn't get here until Monday. You didn't tell me you had sent a dollar so that I could come to see you for if you had I would have given it to you Sat. night or Sunday. I'm not sending it in this letter because I'll be over before it gets there. I saw Tate a number of times since we saw him at the Studio Theater and I also told him about the girl you'd like him to meet but he doesn't seem interested. In fact he seems more interested in you. However I'll overlook that. I believe you do love me and that you meant what you said in your letter. I really do love you Effie, even though it looked like I didn't sometimes. There may be many more times in the future when you'll think I don't love you but I will as long as I live. All I ask in return is that you always love me.

Enclosed is a card of which I am going to send Bill one. I pick a few up at the Chaplin's office. Maybe he'll begin to see the light. I hope you aren't using any of those horrible words while I'm not with you. There isn't any reason for them. Just think, when you're angry or something happens and you curse, it doesn't make you happier I know and it surely doesn't make a mistake right. So hon, not for my sake only, but for your own sake, don't use those words. Well sweetheart I'll close now with love to all, especially to you. I remain -

Everloving yours,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.M.L.M.H. + M.L.

Correspondence

1/2/46

Hi Darling,

Due to the fact that I owe you a letter and that I love you very, very, very, much, I am writing you these lines. There isn't much to tell, because every thing is swell. Don't be surprised at the way that last line rhymes, it just comes natural hon. How is your cold coming along? Mine seems to be getting a little better.

Well my sweet this is my first letter to you in the year 1946. It's been over a year now since I first met you but I'm sure I love you more now than ever. I'm writing that little message you wrote me in short hand because I still not satisfied with the answer you gave me for it. Here it is.

2 lines of shorthand

If you don't give me a satisfied answer this time I'll be forced to take you over my knee and I don't mean maybe. All kidding aside sweetheart, I do love you more than I can tell or express. I saw Grimes and Tates today. Grimes says hello to everyone including Louise. I told Tates the pictures changed at the Studio Theater and that I wouldn't waist my money going there. He said he might go and he'd bet that I go there. Well my love I'll close now with all my love to you and the family. I remain –

Your everloving bean,
Victor (the great)

P.S. What does S.W.O.A.H.K. stand for. It better be good (smile)

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.T.R.K.'S

Correspondence

1/13/46

Dearest Effie,

How are you my sweet? I do hope you are as fine as I. guess what picture I saw tonight, "Leave her to Heaven." Now don't be angry with me for I've just got to do something here on the base when I'm so far away from you. After all there are so many other pictures you haven't seen and many more coming. I noticed your S.W.A.M.K.'s but I also noticed a S.W.A.K. on the outside of the envelope. Did you put that there also or is that some of Barry's work or maybe John Edwards? However I'll except them both from you. I am enclosing the two clippings of Dorothy Dix as you said you wanted them back. I may be in to see you before Saturday but I do not promise. If so it will have to be an unexpected visit. I guess It is now my time to tell you how much I love you as if you didn't already know. I do love you hon with all my heart and if things go on as they have lately, I can do nothing but marry you. By that I mean no misunderstandings or arguments as we have had in the past. Everything has been going along perfectly so lets try to keep it that way.

Do you know what attracted me when I first met you? The same thing that attracts me now that is your beautifulness. Of ~~course~~ course there have been some additions such as your sweetness, charmingness, your love for me and the youngness you try to conceal. There are others but we won't go into details. (smile) By the way you didn't tell me what you are going to do on the radio program. How about some info on it loveable? I'll close now will all my love to you and the family. Please forgive mistakes. This dog-gone pen won't follow my hand.

"ya te amo"

"Ego dilécti ut" (Latin)

Yours forever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M. +O.K.'S

Correspondence

Jan 28, 1946

My Darling,

It's been pretty dead around here with not much to do so I thought I'd use this time for a good cause. I went to a couple of movies yesterday. One on 42nd St near Times Square right off Broadway. The other on Broadway. I saw 2 pretty good pictures on 42nd St. one was "Wild Miss Mason" with Henry Fonda and the other was a picture with the Marx Bros. At the Paramount I saw "The Stork Club" with Betty Hutton and Woody Herman and his Och. In person. It was a pretty good show but I've seen better ones.

I didn't get up Monday until 1230. When Carolyn came from school we cooked my breakfast. She made the toast and I fried eggs and bacon. She washed the dishes when I was through and I took her to see a little girl near the house where we use to live. I've been home ever since listening to records. We have a 12 inch record which I just played with Nelson Eddie singing the "Lords Prayer" and on the other side he sings "The Lost Chord." I really miss you darling and may leave early as you wish. If I can fly back I be in even earlier.

I really do love you darling and always will. I'll close now with love to all especially to you. I remain -

Your lover and admirer,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.L. + Ks.F.T.B.O.M.H.

Correspondence

Jan 29, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I pray this letter finds you and the family in the best of health. It's still pretty dull here sweet. I went to the movies again today and saw "We The People." It was a very good picture. I came home pretty early so that I'd be sure not to miss "Bob Hope" and "Red Skelton's" programs. I think of you constantly and your picture is a great comfort to me. When ever I think of how far away from you I am, I miss you more and that's pretty constant too. Right now we are listening to the "Theatre of Romance" program with Shirley Temple. I hope you are listening to it also. I guess it will seem funny to read this as it will be a past tense but I want you to realize that I am write my thought at a certain time.

Carolyn was just crying because she wanted to hear "A Date with Judy" and mom turned to "Theatre of Romance."

I love you my sweet and as long as I can write and talk I'll tell you so. Mom asked me if I was writing so much because I knew you'd be angry with me? I gold her no but if you were you couldn't stay angry (smile). I hope you are as good a girl as I am a good boy. Of course you can go to the movies with Bishop if you want to (smile). Just don't marry anyone but me. I tried to call you tonight but I couldn't even get the operator on the phone. I'll try again someday this week probably before you get this letter. Well my dear, it's about time as usual to close. Give my love to all. I remain –

Yours forever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L.F.T.B.O.M.H

Correspondence

Jan 30, 1946

My Dearest Darling,

Today I got up pretty early. I was up at 10:15 (smile). It's raining out and Kate didn't go to work because she isn't feeling well. Carolyn just came home for lunch as it is 12 o'clock. I don't know what to do today. Maybe I'll go to another movie but I just can't sit around the house doing nothing.

Kate said she was jealous of you for having me. Then she changed her mind because you are so pretty. Her and mom said they are in love with your picture because it looks so sweet. I'm not just saying these things, they are true.

I love you darling and nothing nor no one can ever change my feeling toward you. Well dear I'm going to cut this letter short as I still have the letter I wrote you yesterday. I send my love to the family, especially to you. I remain –

Your bean and future hus.

Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap I.L.Y.W.M.W.H.
S.W.A.M.K's.A.I.H.G.Y.S.W.M

Correspondence

Feb. 10, 1946

My Dearest Darling,

I promised I'd write you in answer to your letter which you wrote me while I was home. I didn't get to do it last Wednesday so I thought there'd be no time like the present, while I'm on duty. First I want you to know that your letter was just as sweet as you are that is very, very, very, sweet. I could go on and on with very's but I don't think you'll ever know how sweet you really are to me or could I ever express how much I love you in words.

Sweetheart, I am sending the envelope for the pictures tomorrow for it needs a 3¢ stamp on it and I haven't any at hand nor could I get any today being Sunday and the Post Office is closed as far as getting stamps is concerned. I hope they come out good. I'm expecting the pictures I took at home to arrive ~~any~~ any day now. Well my sweet, I'll cut this letter short for it's almost 12 o'clock and I have to get up early in the morn. I love you my sweet and always shall.

With all my heart,
Victor

P.S. Darling, if I don't call you this week it will be so that I can come in Wednesday. As you know I'm almost broke. I'll be in Weds. For sure. I still love you. Here's an ~~exp~~ extra Valentine for you.

Drawing of a heart with an arrow through it. Written in the middle is "V.B. loves E.S."

Take all mistakes for kisses. You'll be smothered with them for I ~~know there~~ know there are plenty.
V.

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.K's.
I.L.Y.

Correspondence

March 5, 1946

My Dearest,

I finally got around to writing you. Your letters were very sweet and always have been, but what else could anyone expect from a very sweet girl. I love you darling and I know you love me. If I could only get out of this blankity-blank Navy. I guess there's no use talking like that for it won't help me get my discharge any sooner. I'll just have to sweat it out or shall I say we'll have to sweat it out. I may be in early Friday night so I'll probably be there when you get home from school. The boys are getting discharged pretty steadily here and we're getting short of men just as steadily. Guess what? I was bowling today, I did pretty good if I do say so myself. My score was a little better than the first time but I'm not perfect yet. I still say I think I can beat you and I'm going to prove it some day. I don't think you are so anxious to go bowling because you're afraid I might win.

I'm going to bring this letter to a close now as it is rather late and I'm rather of tired, besides, I've ran out of words. You know I love you and always will, don't you hon. I've only been away from you two days and I miss you terribly already. ^Give^ my love to all, I remain –

Yours forever,
Victor

P.S. Hope you like the red ink. I thought I use it for a change.

Envelope

(Sender) From Brockenborough
57-50 Granger St.
Corona, L.I.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

57-50 Granger St.
Corona, L.I.
March 17th 1946

My Dear Effie,

This letter may surprise you as I have been so long answering your very sweet letter. We received your lovely photo also the beautiful valentine you sent Bill and me. Many thanks to you for the same. Every one who sees your photo says how sweet you are and that Victor is a lucky guy. We The family feels the same way. We are all anxious to meet you and ^hope^ that it will be soon.

I am so sorry the blouse does not fit you but glad you let me know. The next time I send you a gift will be sure it is something you can use. If you know any one the blouse fits, give it to her.

I am so happy that Victor and Billy were together. Please thank your family for their great kindness to them. I hope that some day I will be able to do something good for you and your family. If at any time I can help you in any way just let me know.

Well dear I hope you are all enjoying the best of health and happy. I hope that you are enjoying and successful in your school work.

Please forgive me for taking so long to write you, will try to do better next time. Bill and the girls join me with love to you. Best regards to the family.

God Bless you. Good Luck to you,

With Love,
Mom

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.K.

Correspondence

March 18, 1946

Dearest Effie,

Being that I owe you a couple of letters I thought I'd drop you a few lines. I mailed our letter to Bill and Nona the first thing when I arrived at the base. Listen dear, if I keep on sleeping in my clothes, I'll have to bring in some dungarees and change. As you witnessed, my clothes were awful wrinkled. I have just heard "Screen Guild Theatre" with Bob Hope and was it good. Just before the I heard the "Tale of Two Cities" which was also very good. Ronald Coleman was the star.

Well darling, I said was going to write just a few lines and I am forced to keep my word because I can't think of anything else to write. I really do love you sweetheart and as I've said over and over, I'll never stop loving you. I miss you already my sweet and it's only been a matter of hours since I've seen you. I'll close now with all my love.

Yours ever loving you,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Inside Flap S.W.L.O.K.'S
L.A.A.

Correspondence

March 27, 1946

My Dearest Darling,

I'm very sorry I didn't get a chance to write you before now. I have been in Sick Bay since Monday morning due to a sprained ankle. I was very grateful, not for the sprained ankle, but for the much needed rest. I saw a picture tonight which touched the bottom of my heart as all pictures of its type do. It made tears flow from my eyes. The name of the picture was "Sentimental Journey" with John Payne, Maureen O'Kara and a little girl of whom I am not very familiar with.

Remind me to take you to see it when it plays down town, that is if you think you'd like to see it. I miss you very much sweetheart and I know you miss me just as much. By the way my sweet, I'm out of Sick Bay now but my ankle is still a little sore and slightly swollen. I believe it will be fully healed by Sunday. If I don't have any money then, I'll high-hike in to see you. Well sweet heart, it's time to say I love you with all my heart and will to my dieing day. I really mean it sugar. Until Sunday I'll close.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.

(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L.
L.M.F.A.W.S.B.L.F.

Correspondence

April 3, 1946

My Dearest Darling,

As you know, I received your darling letter and I really over joyed upon receiving it. The same as I love you more every time I see you, your letter are better every time you write. My sweet, time is passing and I guess it won't be long before I'll be out of this blankety blank Navy. After that it will be a short time before we are together until death do us part. That is unless you will come me upon completion of school. Of course that is up to you. You say what will you do when I'm gone after my discharge but darling, what about me. I'll also be away from you and judging from the way I miss you now when I'm apart from you just a little while. I'll really suffer when I leave you. However, when I think of all the time we will be together, I'll have strength to carry on. You'll be in my heart every moment.

I am enclosing a little joke I picked up in the barracks. I hope you will enjoy it as I did when I first read it. I love you hon and if God will permit me, I'll prove it to you, not because I don't think you believe me but because my heart tells me to. I've ran out of words now dear so I'll bring this letter to a close. My love to the family, especially to you.

Love for ever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Mrs. Wm. L. Brockenborough
508A West Vine St.
Champaign, Il.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

508A West Vine St.
Champaign Il.
April 6, 1946

Dear Effie,

After waiting so long for an answer from you and Victor, I decided that I would write and this makes two letters that you owe us.

Gwendolyn has had the mumps and it has keep me quite busy looking after her.

If I don't hear from you or Victor in the near future I hope that both of you have the measles at the same time. Ha. Ha.

Bill is getting along fine, and believe it or not he is picking up wright.

We are hoping that the two of you will be able to spend Easter with us, so ^you can^ plan on it now.

Give the family our regards and if I don't hear from you soon, I will know that you have the measles.

Love,

Nona + Bill

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.L.A.E.A.F.E.

Correspondence

April 15, 1946

My Dearest Darling,

I pray this letter finds you in the best of health and spirit. I have the Electricians watch tonight so I won't miss any of my sleep. Well darling, every day brings us closer to being together forever. I just hope and pray I can make you as happy as you will make me when we get married. I forgot to tell you sweet, but we are suppose to have personnel inspection this coming Sat. if so I'll be in by 1:30 or 2:00. If we don't have inspection I'll be in as early as possible.

I bowled again today but it didn't cost me a cent, infact I made 30 cents. You see another fellow and I set pins for each other and two other fellows. So we didn't have to pay for our games but the other fellows had to pay us for setting the pins for them. They bowled 3 games a piece which is 60 cents in all and my pal and I split it. We bowled 3 games our self. I bowled 115, 116, 154. That's not bad but I'll be bowling ~~more~~ better if I keep on bowling.

Darling, I love you more than anything in the world and don't you forget it even if I do treat you kind of rough sometimes. I'll always love you and all I ask in return is your love which I know you will give me. This letter makes us even hon. so you can write me when ever you want to.

How are your snails? I hope they're still alive just for your sake, not mine. (smile)

Enclosed you will find a beautiful picture. Hope you like it. The reason why I'm sending it this way is because I haven't any stamps. I know you don't mind (smile). By the way my sweet, what would you like for your birthday? Anything you want that I can afford, you may have.

I'm closing now hon., with all my love to you and the family, especially to you.

Love forever and ever,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap I.L.Y.
Enclosures Typed joke and comic strip

Correspondence

April 23, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I pray this letter finds you in the best of health and still loving me as I love you. I want you to know I really had a swell Easter for just being with you can make any day perfect.

I received a letter from Louie today (my brother-in-law_ with this clipping enclosed. He said he thought it was just right for you and I. He also says he and the family are very anxious to meet you. I just got through writing him and I said I would be on the look out to return the compliment by sending him a clipping that suits him and Kate. So if you run across any, hold onto them and we'll send the best one to them. Darling I'm going to make this a short letter for I'm kind of tired, besides I don't know of anything else to write. So until I hear from or see you I remain –

Forever yours,
Victor

P.S. – I love you, I love you, I love you, + ye ta amo.

V.C.B.

Enclosed

Strip of paper that reads – I hate all men. They take me to parties, to dances, up alleys, to roadhouses, to their bedrooms and subways.

They grasp me to them with their fingers. After they get me hot they hold me to their lips and drag the life out of me. Some are gentle and hold me gently, but when they get everything I have they cast me down. I am only good for a tramp. Why should they take advantage of me?

I'll burn them yet, even if I am only a cigarette.

Over

(handwritten) P.S. when I say I picked this up in the barracks, I don't mean I found it all typed like this. I typed it myself.

Your lover, Victor

Comic Strip – There Oughta Be a Law by Fagaly and Shorten

Envelope

(Sender) Victor Brockenborough E.M. 3/c
U.S.N.A.S.
P.W. Elec. Shop
Glenview, Ill.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap I.L.Y.
S.W.A.M.L.K. + H.

Correspondence

May 5, 1946

Dear Darling,

I am not writing you this letter because I owe you one, but because I love you and miss you every moment away from you. However I do owe you a post card. (smile) I pray this letter finds you well and happy and there's no reason why it should not for I left you feeling that way unless of course your imagination is playing tricks again. (smile)

I arrived at the base about 0800 which wasn't bad at all. My watch must have stopped during the night and started again for it was only about 15 minutes slow. I'll bet you didn't go to church this morning but I did.

Say sweetheart, that pie is delicious. I had a piece this morning but I couldn't find Grimes around the barracks. If I don't find him tomorrow, I'm afraid he'll just be out of luck. (smile) Say sweetheart are you still looking for something to send Louie and Kate. I don't get much of a chance to look because I seldom get hold of a paper. I meant the Tribune or the American, in which you find what we're looking for. By the way, I sent that joke to Louie you typed but I didn't mention that you had any connections with it. He let Kate see it and Kate told Mom I'm getting to be a bad boy. Louie said he covered up for me but they don't know the half of it. It's a swell day today. I just got back from driving way out in the country toward Great Lakes but not quite that far. I drove an officer home in a 1941 Plymouth station wagon. It was a swell ride. I'll be glad when I can drive my own car. I'm hoping it won't be long. Louie tells me that Dad is trying to get a new Ford. I don't know if he means a new one compared to his old one or a brand new one. I doubt if it's the latter. He also wants to get a car himself. Well my sweet it's time to close this letter but I will keep my heart open for your love. Love to you and the family, especially to you.

Love as ever and forever,
Victor

P.S. – I'll call you latter in the week and let you know what's what. Love, V.

Envelope

(Sender) Mrs. Wm. L. Brockenborough
508A West Vine St.
Champaign, Il.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

508A West Vine St.
Champaign Il.
May 14, 1946

Dear Effie,

Sorry it has taken me so long in answering but I know that you understand.

Tell that no-good Victor just because you write a letter and sign his name to it isn't any excuse for him not to write.

We have a nice garden and when you and Victor visit us again we can give you some nice mustard out of it.

I know that you are busy with school and will be glad when it is out. The schools here are out the 24th of May.

Joey hive told me about yours and Victors visit, and how much she enjoyed it.

Give my regards to the family and tell Victor if we don't receive a letter from him soon he will be in the dog-house with us.

Love,
Winona

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

June 10, 1946

My Dearest Darling,

I hope and pray this letter finds you and the family in the best of health as everyone is here.

I know you will forgive me for not writing sooner because you love me and you know I love you. I am going to tell you everything from the time I left you up to now but first I want you to know I miss you terribly which includes your sweetness, your pretty face and hair, your kisses and many more, but it would take years to finish writing them.

We caught the train that Sunday you were at the station and left Chicago on time. We went to bed soon after we boarded the train. The trip was swell because due to the fact that we played cards most of the way it seemed to take less time. We arrived in N.Y. about 7 P.M. Monday N.Y. time. We all agreed on going out to Lido Beach. The family was surprised to see me. I didn't do anything that night but stay in the house and take it easy. I back at Penn station a little before 12 – midnight and the other fellows arrived soon afterward, for we were to meet at 12. We then took the Long Island train out to Lido Beach which was a little less than an hour time. The next day (Tuesday) we were supposed to start processing which is everything you you have to go through to get discharged. However we didn't get that far. The first procedure to start processing is to be grouped which consists of 30 men with a number. We are supposed to go through the red tape with this group. Well we were grouped, so we found out later, but we were not informed and we didn't even know what the group number was. That made me mad for we were put in the suspense barracks in which we had to stay until we were regrouped. That was the next day. We got started the next day and had preliminary check (blood test) lectures, movies, physical tests and checks. Just about everything we went through when we entered the Navy and then some. We finished up Friday and was out of the Navy about 2:30 P.M. the same day. I was home by 4 PM. I visited some friends that evening. Sat. I got up around 11 AM. Marcy asked me to go with her to Marion's house. I agreed but Bobby came over with Patricia before we left so we went back with him to see Marion. By the way Marion is expecting another child.

Sunday morning I went to mass at 8 A.M. My buddy Joe who recently got discharged from the Navy also, was at my house Sat. night and left word with mom that he would be back Sun. so I waited for him. He came about 2 PM with his sister. She and March decided to take pictures so we did. A friend of mine took Marcy horseback riding which was her first time, but she came out okay without aches or pains. They then decided to go to Coney Island. I didn't want to go for I had planned to write you and some other letters but Marcy kept pestering me until I went. We had a pretty good time but darling I missed you. I like to go with some one I love to a place like that. Anyway that brings me up to now. I got up near 12 noon, only because nobody woke me up earlier. I went to the draft board to which I had to report in 10 days from my discharge. I am now in class 1-c which is lower than 4-F as far as getting drafted is concerned.

The weather is swell here. I'll bet you can't say the same thing for Chicago (smile).

Have you heard from Bill and Nona? They have a boy which makes me an uncle of 3 nieces and one nephew.

Give everyone my love darling and I miss everyone very very much. Tell granny I also miss her delicious cooking immensely. What I miss most of all is you my sweet. How are you getting along. I haven't stopped praying for you and will continue as long as I can pray. I am waiting anxiously to find out you know what, so please write soon. I love you darling (baby) and will always believe me. I became yours the day I met you and remain yours until you don't want me.

Mom and the family send their love and are waiting impatiently to meet you personally. Everyone is looking out for your interests, even Carolyn, so you see, I have to be good.

Until I hear from you, which I hope will be soon, I shall say so-long. I close with all my love and I do mean all.

Forever Yours,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.O.M.Ks.

Correspondence

June 14, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I received your very sweet letter and it made me very happy. I miss you my baby so you can imagine the happiness it brought me. I can scarcely wait to see you. Sometimes I wish I was there with you. I'm waiting impatiently for July to get here.

Bobby, Marion + Patricia were over yesterday. Also my Uncle, his wife and step-daughter from South Carolina were here. They are staying with some relatives in the Bronx.

By the way darling, I'm not working yet but will as soon as I can get straightened out. I bought a few things in the line of clothes but I haven't any suits yet.

No sweetheart, I hadn't told anyone we were going to get married in July. You know what the reason was. You still haven't answered my question the way I told you to and ~~wa~~ what's more you didn't say you love me in your letter. I know you love me almost as much as I love you but if I told you once I told you a hundred times, I still want you to say so in your letters to me or in my ear. I love you more than anything in the world.

I'm not doing very much right now hon. I've been in all day and was sleeping most of the time. We've had some swell weather up to today for it's raining out. I'm supposed to go to a birthday party tonight. Two of my buddies who got discharged recently are having their birthday parties together. One

birthday was June 11 and the other today June 14. Which reminds me that I didn't give you anything on your birthday. I ask forgiveness and promise to make up for it. I have a present for your graduation and I'll send it if I can get it off before graduation. If not I'll keep it until you get here for you can use what I have any time. How is everything there. Has the family been out to Thorndale St? Tell Aunt Edith and Uncle John I send my regards. Also give my love to Granny, Louise, and the Boys.

Well sweetheart it is time to close but I'll be dreaming and thinking about you constantly. I love you more than ever and pray the time will past by fast and we will be together again soon. I love you baby and with eternally –

Forever yours,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L.

Correspondence

June 19, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I received both your most recent letters. If you only knew how happy I was to receive them. Darling, I do miss you more than you miss me or more than you'll ever miss me. I wouldn't know the time of day or anything else if I didn't have your picture here. Sweetheart, it's entirely up to you as to when you can come here. I'd ask you to come the first of July but I know it would be rushing you for it would be right after graduation. So hon, you decide when you want to come and let me know but please make it very soon. By the way, you can also let me know if you want me to send the money for your fair. I know I promised to either send the money or the ticket but something happened last week. I'll tell you all about it when I see you. Of course if you can't afford it I'll send the money or the ticket. I may be able to get it together in time.

Look sweetheart, I still don't know what's what concerning Jr. How about giving me the whole story.

I'd also like to know when is your graduation day? When you decide on the day you are leaving Chicago to come here, let me know what time the train leaves there or better still, the time the train gets in New York.

I love you my sweet, so help me, I love you. And after we're married I'll prove it to you every day.

I didn't do very much Sunday. I went to mass with mom and Marcy in the morning. I was supposed to go horse back riding in the afternoon but I didn't. However I did go down to the stables and looked the horses over. I know the fellow that owns the place and he invited me in to see the horses. I came back home about 4:30 P.M. and Marcy was home with one of her boyfriends. He's a nice guy and we talked, listened to the ball game, records and talked some more. Mom was down stairs in our neighbors having her hair done. Here's the best part of the day. When I came home I brought some ice cream with me. We ate that and I wanted some more so March was going to the store and we told her to get some. While she was out Kate came home with ice cream. We ate that. Then Marcy came with more. We ate that. A little while later Dad came in, also with ice cream. You know what's next yes we ate it. No sooner did we bring the dishes in the kitchen, here comes Louie with ice cream. That made five times we ate ice cream. Thank goodness no one else came in with ice cream or they might think I was sick because I'd have to refuse to eat ice cream. I did miss you loads Sunday because I was talking about you. Everyone that sees has seen your picture say you are very pretty and also want to know when we are going to get married. I tell them in July since I received your letter.

I don't go out very much hon. I haven't been to more than one movie since I've been home but I am going bowling tomorrow night (Thurs.) with a couple of my buddies. I've got to stay home tonight because I must hear Joe Louis and Billy Conn fight but don't get me wrong. I'd probably be home even if they weren't fighting. I promise to write you more often hon. but don't expect them to be this long. I'll probably call you up before you receive this letter, if not I call soon afterward. You told me not to but I've got to. We have the record of our song "Day by Day" and it's sung by Frank Sinatra. I'll play it every day until you get here. How is everything going in Chicago? I sure miss Chi even though New York beats it in every way. I'm going to close now hon and I'll write again very soon.

With all my love,

Victor

P.S. Give every one my love. God Bless you all. V.

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.O.M.K'S.
Enclosures Two flower petals

Correspondence

June 20, 1946

Hi Baby,

I pray this letter finds you in the best of health and the rest of the family the same. I love you darling from the bottom of my heart and like the center of the Earth, no one can ever reach it's depth so not a thing nor person can take, my love for you, from my heart.

Well my sweet. Did you hear that Joe Louis + Billy Conn fight. My buddy always comes through. You should have seen my family when it was over. Mom slapped me on the back, Kate was dancing up and down with one of the neighbors and every body was happy.

I finally got a suit dear. It isn't exactly what I wanted but I like well enough to make it last until I can get what I had my heart set on getting. I have some brown shoes, a rain coat, an extra pair of pants, socks, swimming trunks, belt, sport shirt, wallet, etc. I also bought some frames for your pictures and one for mine. I'm not through yet for I have to get a sports jacket and some dress shirts. I bought a tan rain coat. I should be pretty well outfitted by the time you get here.

Enclosed are two rose petals. One with a v. and one an E. The stand for Victor + Effie. The other is the way we feel toward each other. I pray that you will be with me soon. Fulfill my prayer and come to me as soon as you can hon. I need you very, very much. Until tomorrow I'll close with love to all. Tell Granny I try to drop her a few lines soon.

With all my love,
Victor

Enclosed – 2 flower petals, one with V. and one with LOVES

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.O.O.K.
(SWOOK)

Correspondence

June 21, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

Well dear, here I am writing you again and missing you more than ever. Everything is fine here and so is everyone.

I went to the movie yesterday and saw "The Wife of Monte Cristo." I also saw the Louis + Conn fight on the screen. That was after I had done some shopping. I bought a sport jacket with pants to match. The jacket was light brown in front and sort of checkered sleeves ~~an~~ collar and back with light and dark lines. The pants were dark brown the exact color of the dark lines in the jacket.

I also went Bowling when I came home from the show. We only bowled two (2) games. My scores were 181 and 142. Two friends of mine went with me and their scores were 96, 113, 118, 107. No competition at all.

Oh yes! Carolyn has the measles now. Mom is certainly having a time taking care of here.

Marcy is still acting silly with the fellows that call on her. Sometimes I wonder if she has all her senses. I had to laugh at one of the fellows. He's a good friend of mine infact he was one of the fellows that went bowling with us. He says Marcy is cold as ice and that she needs cracking. He told me about the day he took my sister to the movies. She choose the worst and cheapest theater to go to. The name of is the "Palace" but every one calls it the "Dump." I'm sure I told you about it. It's also known as the "Ditch."

I love you sweetheart and you should know it but now. But I'm ~~never~~ never going to stop telling you so because I'll never stop loving you.

Give my love to everyone, including Mrs. Jones.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L.
(SWAML)

Correspondence

June 22, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I received your Special Delivery letter this morning and I'm answering it the same morning. First of all I want to tell you that you must have ~~misud~~ misunderstood my letter. I said I didn't tell anyone about us getting married in July because I didn't know how you were going as far as Jr. is concerned. However, when I received your letter saying you are coming here in July. I told everyone. Mom and the family, even friends knew you were coming and that we plan to marry in July ever since then. I don't see how you got the idea I didn't tell them or that they don't know you're coming but they do and are as anxious as I for you to get here.

Another thing is that you say or complain about the pictures making you look as big as a house. I remember when you were complaining about being too little. Make up your mind baby. I love you hon and I want you to realize it. There's nothing I want more than you so don't worry about anything but getting here as soon as possible. I'll be waiting impatiently for you but every moment makes me happier bringing you closer to my longing arms.

About that graduation present, it isn't much, really. I should tell you what it is because I don't want you to expect more than what I have, but I'm not. I may have something else for you if I see something I think you'll like. Hon how about sending me your sizes on a separate piece of paper. I mean everything you wear. I could have a few things for you when you arrive.

It's a swell day today hon and I may go for a swim. The sun is bright with a light breeze blowing. How's the weather there? Well my sweet, it's time to close for I can't think of anything else to write except that I love you and I've told you that so many times, you must be tired seeing ig.

With all my love,

(over)

Victor

P.S. give my love to the family and all our friends. Tell the girls in your class I say hello. V.

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.K.'s
(SWAMK)

Correspondence

June 23, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

Here it is Sunday again. I miss you more than ever today and wish you were here. I went to church this morning with Mom and Marcy. I was kind of tired and came pretty close to falling asleep. We had company last night until almost 2:30 A.M. I went to sleep about 3:15 and got up quarter to 7 to go to 8 o'clock mass. I don't know what I'll do today but I've got to do something. It about 1 P.M. and I'm tired of sitting around already. I wish you could see me now for really look sharp if I do say so myself. I have my brown shoes on with my sharp socks. They have diamond designs with brown, blue and maroon diamonds. It may sound bad but you should see them. I have my brown pants on and a sport shirt that really is tops. I wore my sport jacket to mass this morning. All my clothes I'm wearing today have some shade of brown. If it isn't the main color, it's the back ground color. I forgot to put my discharge button on my sport coat this morning but they're on now. It's the first time I've worn them since I've been home.

Everyone here is well except Carolyn. She still has the mumps. Mom + Dad went to the Bronx to see my Uncle from S.C. Marcy went to meet my cousin, their daughter. That is my Uncle's daughter, and they're going to a show Downtown near Broadway. I think my brother-in-law Louie is going to the Bronx also to see Unc. And I may go with him. If not, I'll probably go to a show.

I love you darling, as I will always. ~~Somett~~ Sometime I wish I had done what you wanted me to do, come to Chicago with you for I miss you so. You remember the large picture you gave me. I wish you could step out of it for that's how really and truly it looks like you. The sweetness and beauty of you is all there in the picture. And don't you say you're not pretty and sweet because you'd be telling a very, very big lie. Until tomorrow I remain yours –

With all my love,
Victor

P.S. Love to all. Tell Aunt Edith the weather is lovely here. Doesn't she wish she was in New York now?

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.E.L.+K.'s
(SWELK)

Correspondence

June 24, 1946

Hi Baby,

How is everything with you? Well Hon. I did go to the Bronx yesterday with Louis. We met my mother and father there and a little later Marcy and Dorie came in. They were teasing me a good deal and were talking about you and I. we had a swell Sunday including the weather.

It's pretty hot today and I'm sweating just sitting here writing you. I received a card today from Crawford Clothes Store, telling me my suit was ready and to call for it. I wasn't expecting it until Wed. I went down to the store and got it. It's the first Gray suit I ever bought but I like it and hope you will also. I can't explain the type of gray it is but the suit is made of good material. I believe I told you that I also got a rain coat. It's an almost exact duplicate of an army officers rain coat.

I can't think of anything else to write about sweetheart so I'm going to cut this letter short. Oh yes! If you get this letter with the one I wrote yesterday don't be surprised. I carried your letter and Granny's all the way to the Bronx with me and forgot to mail them even this morning.

I still love you baby and miss you more each day. I'm being a good boy with the aid of Mom + Kate.

Closing now –

With all my love,
Victor

P.S. Love to all and God Bless you.

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.E.L.L.
(SWELL)

Correspondence

June 27, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

Hi my sweet. I received your letter containing the pictures and was very, very happy to hear from you. The pictures came out swell especially the one with me in it. I didn't mention the other pictures you sent in the special delivery letter but they also came out swell.

Carolyn was up yesterday and today the doctor said she could go to school this afternoon. I'm sorry hon. I realized I told you Carolyn had the mumps the next day. Then I wrote you and forgot to correct the error. She really had the measles but now, thank goodness, she's over them.

Yes hon. I did write to Bill + Nona but as yet I haven't heard from them. I gave Bill a good talking to for not writing Mom. She's only received one letter and a telegram, which brought the news of the child, since he's left home after his discharge.

Hon. I didn't mean to sound mad when I wrote you last, I just wanted to make it clear so that you would understand.

I'm not working yet sweetheart, only because I haven't looked for a job. There were some things I wanted to get done which I couldn't if I were working. However, I'm going to see about a job soon because I getting tired of taking it easy.

I haven't got your ring yet my sweet but every jewelry store I pass, I have to stop and look at the beautiful rings. Most of the prices are beautiful too but I'm I'll be able to get yours soon. Maybe tomorrow.

Say baby, ^you^ say that you tell everyone we'll be married in July and I also have been telling everyone the same thing, but I don't think it can be possible if you come when you say (July 26) Of course we'll be married as soon as possible after you get here but I'm afraid it will take a little longer than the end of July. Now I'm not saying it will, but I think it will. I was expecting you to make it sooner than the 26th but if that's when you want to come, it's swell with me baby. I was glad to hear you say you love me and that you know I love you because I really do. I love you so very much I can't express my love in words and miss you more each day. By the way my dear, I didn't mention that I received the letter you wrote the 26th of June. It arrived today. I guess you realized that I did receive from the rest of my letter for I answered it almost line for line.

I missed writing you Tues. + Wed. for I didn't have anything to write. My Dad is planning on getting a new car, (a ford "46"). He says he has one ordered and his name is fourth on the waiting list.

Every one here is well and pray that you are all the same. How are the boys these days? Does John Edward still go fishing? I'll try to drop them a line sometime soon when I'm in the writing mood.

Say hon. I have to wear suspenders with my suit pants. I hope you'll like them because they really are sharp. I see if I can have some pictures made in my suit when I know I can afford. I know I couldn't do it at the time.

I'm going to sign off darling but I'll be on again soon. Take care of yourself and be a good girl. I promise I'll be good to you, by that I mean true. God Bless you and the family.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.O.O.K.
(SWOOK)

Correspondence

June 30 1946

My Dearest Baby,

Another Sunday has come around and it finds me missing you terribly. Although I am physically well, I don't seem to feel too good due to the fact that an everlasting emptiness seems with in me. I feel lonesome for you. Of course as I said before your picture helps out a lot but still it's not the same as you being near me.

Darling, you must know how terribly I want you with me but I've got to prepare you for what you are getting into. It will be a great change from your present and previous way of living. The time I spent with you made me notice the change between your home and mine and if I noticed the change in such a short time I can imagine that it will be like for you. Mom + Kate are afraid you won't be happy here after living in a large house with your own room and things like that. I know you said you wouldn't mind and that you know what to expect but I don't want you to be unhappy. I know you love me very much and it would be just like you to be unhappy and hide that unhappiness behind your love for me. I don't want it to be like that. After you've been here a while and you find you're not happy, I want you to be honest with me and let me know. It's a beautiful day out, a warm sun with a beautiful breeze. Bobby brought Patricia over last night. He stayed kind of late so Patricia ~~stayed~~ slept here with Carolyn.

Nona wrote to Mom, and everything seems to just fine there. I'll write again tomorrow so if I think of anything else to write I put it in that letter. I love you hon., always did and always will. I guess you are wondering how can I say always did. Remember, I told you you were my dream girl. I dreamed about you before I met you.

Love to all.

Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.

Correspondence

July 1, 1946

My Dearest Darling,

How is everything there in Chicago? I pray it is as fine as we all are here. Hon., I am going to get your ring tomorrow and I'll send it as soon as I possibly can. I only hope my choice of the ring meets your desires. I told you I wouldn't possibly be able to get anything super but if you aren't expecting anything that fine it will seem like it was every bit super. I know you'll like it even if it's made of brass and glass because that's the swell type of person you are. I've had some cheap pictures made which are tinted and I'm sending you one with the ring. You don't have to bring it back with you for I have three altogether. You can leave it with the family to scare the rats away. I say rats because there are no mice in Chicago. Tell Aunt Edith I said that but tell her I realize it isn't her fault (smile).

It was a swell day today for it wasn't so hot. I'm working on Marcy's bike these days for she asked me to fix it up and paint it so that's what I do. I went to the Roxy Theater yesterday and a swell picture. It was "Smoky" with Fred MacMurray + Ann Baxter. On stage the main performers were Donald O'Connor and Patsy O'Connor. The whole show was really wonderful and I enjoyed it almost as much as I would have if you were with me.

Did you listen to the Atom Bomb broadcast. We got all excited expecting to hear something and all we could hear was static which made the broadcast just about unheard.

I'm bringing this letter to a close now but before I do I've got to say I love you from the bottom of my heart and I miss you tremendously. Give my love to all.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L.
I.M.Y.B.

Correspondence

July 2, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I received both your letter and your Graduation Commencement Exercises program. I was overjoyed to hear from you as I always am. Mom noticed that one was sent air mail and the other was just regular mail and they both arrived at the same time. Judging from the post mark and the date you put on the inside, they were sent the same time. I can't see how that could be unless the mail was held up when it got here and the other caught up to the air mail.

Darling, I notice you said, "if you weren't so selfish and didn't miss me so much you would try to stick it out to Sept." I don't know if you really meant that or if you left out the other subject by accident. If you haven't told me the truth about Jr., I'll never forgive you. If you are still in doubt I'd suggest you find out. Another thing is this you keep worrying whether mom and the family would mind if you came and I keep telling you they don't and they're anxious to meet ^you.^ Can't you understand. You're as welcome here as I am or any other member of the family. Why do you keep asking me if I have asked them? Whats more, my dear, if there were any apartments for rent, Kate + Louie would have gotten them. I couldn't possibly get any until you got here anyway. Just think hon. and answer this question yourself. Isn't that a silly question to ask me.

I guess you'll say I sound mad again, well to be truthful, I am sorta angry. Don't you see darling I love you and I want you even more than you want me but by you asking such questions, I'm beginning to think you don't want to come. Of course I don't blame you very much, but you've got to give up something for happiness. Don't forget that you're not the only one giving up things you love or want. There are a lot of things I could do or get if I weren't about to get married. You've heard me talk about getting a car and I still want one very badly, but I realize I can't have one right now for I want you more. There is nothing, beside you, that I want more than a car but I'm giving it up until later on. That isn't all I want but I'm putting everything aside until I've got you. You must do the same hon. if you love me as much as you say. The inconveniences you have to put up with, for a while, won't seem like much after you are happy and have everything you want. So Sweetheart, when you are ready to come, do so and stop worrying so much.

As for sending your things, I'd suggest sending them in the trunk if you can get everything with you. By the way, about how large is the trunk? You can send it C.O.D. and I'll take care of it when it gets here.

Darling, about the rings, I have been thinking it over and Kate talked to me about the subject. She didn't think it was necessary to buy an expensive Engagement and Wedding set when we'll be needing the money for other things later on. She suggested I get an inexpensive wedding ring only and if

I wanted to, I could get a set a woman and man ~~in~~ bridal combination. Tell me what you think I should do. If you still want the engagement rings I get it.

I have been thinking of going down to see if my old job is still there this Friday so that if it is I could start work Monday. If not I can look around for a job. Give my love to Everyone hon. especially your self. I love you more than ever and miss you the same as I love. Please understand you are welcome here and come when you are ready.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L.+K.'s
L.F.E.

Correspondence

July 7, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I received your very sweet letter the other day and was very happy for same. Everyone here is fine and I pray this letter finds you and the family in the best of health there.

Well sweetheart, there isn't much to tell for I haven't been doing much beside taking it easy. I finally finished Marcy's bike and it looks fine if I do say so myself. I overhauled it and painted it red + silver. Dad bought two new tires and an inner tube for it. There are still a few minor things it needs but I doubt if it will look like much when you get here. I went swimming a couple of times since I've been home but only at the pool. I haven't been to the beach yet, I mean swimming there. I have been to Coney Island and we had a fairly good time.

So Aunt Edith was tickled over my letter. I was very glad to hear that because I think she's swell. I think the whole family is swell. I love you all. But I love you darling like I love no one else. I guess you've been wondering why I've slackened in writing you this past week. I got up early every morning and worked on Marcy and Carolyn's bikes but I'm not using that as an excuse. I guess I've just been kind of lazy.

Louie just told me to tell you he says hello and that he has a lot to tell you about me. What I don't know but I assure you it can't be of much importance for I haven't done anything bad.

I'm going to close now hon. with love to all and I love you.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.A.O.K.'s
I.L.U.

Correspondence

July 9, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I received two letters from you, one yesterday and one today. I was very happy as usual to hear from you. I was especially happy to hear you weren't what we both thought you were. Of course I still want you to come. Darling, I wasn't kidding when I said I missed you terribly and I mean it when I say I miss you even more now. Can't you realize that I love you and will always. I'm sorry I didn't marry you when we started to get married that time. If we were you'd be here now and I'd be one of the happiest guys in the world.

Sweetheart, whenever you are ready to come, do so but be sure to let me know so that I can meet you. I promise I'll meet you alone.

So John Edward is still fishing? That's swell but how is my pal Barry and Louise? Oh yes! You did say Barry was going to Summer school.

We've also been having some pretty hot ~~we~~ weather here lately and it hasn't rained very much since I've been home. It was so hot Sunday, I didn't even go out. I was sleeping when two of my cousins came over with three of their friends from N.Y.C. They were all ~~by~~ boys by the way. I'm sitting here writing you now and sweating like mad so you can imagine how hot it is. Everybody wants ice cream so I'm going to get it as soon as I'm through writing you.

Tell Aunt Edith I know she sees two legged rats there because the rats are so big when they stand up on their hind legs they look like men. I'd like to know what she'd call an elephant if she calls them things rodents (smile). Give my love to all. I love you hon. and I'll be counting the days also.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.E.L.L.+K's.

Correspondence

July 12, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

How are you my sweet and everyone there? I pray you are all fine and in the best of health. Darling, because I haven't been writing you everyday, don't think for one minute that I haven't been thinking of you everyday because I have. I love you more than ever and I'm still very anxious for you to get here. We have been having quite a bit of hot weather here but it was a little cool today thank goodness. How do you feel now that you don't have to worry about you know what. I was greatly relieved but it hasn't changed my feeling toward you except for the good. I love you more for being truthful to me. Please be that way always for lies can only bring unhappiness and distrust. Don't get me wrong now, I'm not saying that you lie. Those little fibs you tell me aren't considered as lies as far as I'm concerned, because I knew the the truth or else they didn't mean thing. I'm just saying don't ever lie and I promise I won't either.

I'm writing you with your picture standing in front of me and you look just as sweet as ever. I miss the times we use to come home from the movies and have our desert before going to bed. I also miss the mornings we went to church and the way you squeezed my hand and I squeezed yours. But most of all I miss you in my ~~har~~ arms and the life and everlasting warmth of your kisses. Yes hon., I miss these things and many more that make me love you so very much. People call it getting tied down but when you love a person as much as I love you, it's just beginning to live. The only trouble is that you seem to be waiting for the things you want most all the time. Sometimes they come and sometimes they don't. But it won't be too long before you come, will it hon. Just a matter of weeks. I'll be waiting anxiously. Give my love to all.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L.+K.'S
I.M.Y.H.

Correspondence

July 13, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I received your letter this morning and was very happy to hear from you. I didn't receive your trunk Fri. but it arrived today. I was glad when it arrived for I know it won't be long before you will follow it. Don't you worry about it hon for it will be exactly like you sent it.

Hon. to be truthful, I'd marry you in bobby socks. But you know how I feel about slacks on girls (smile). Sweetheart, I didn't want to tell you but it seems like you are worrying so much about stockings that I must. I have two pair of nylons size 9 ½ for you. Marcy knows where she can get them so I asked her to get a couple pair for me. That was before you sent me your sizes and before graduation. That was why I asked you for your sizes to see if I was right in your stocking size and I was. I'm not buying anything else right now because I don't know what our marriage expenses will be. I would like to get so many things for you and a few for my self but I'll just have to wait. Tell Aunt Edith I'd be only to glad to have a picture made of myself for her but tell her when I do and she first sees it, please don't scream. (smile)

Darling, Day by Day I'm falling more in love with you. That's our song hon. and I play it every day. It sounds prettier everytime I play it. I'm waiting for the day when I can hold you in my arms and we can listen to our song together. Until then, I'll miss you, your sweetness, love and everything I love so much about you. Effie, one thing I want to be sure you understand. As you should know I'm a very sentimental guy so always show affection toward me. If I ever thought you had stopped loving me I didn't know what I'd do. Give my love to all especially Granny and Aunt Edith.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.L.O.L.+K.'s.
I.L.Y.

Correspondence

July 14, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

Another Sunday has just gone by which brings you another Sunday closer to me. I was very lonely today and just had to do something to pass the time so I went to the show again. I saw a swell picture titled "Stranger" with Loretta Young, Edward G. Robinson and Orson Wells. I'm trying to have patience and wait for you but believe me it's a very hard job for I miss you so terrible much. I love you baby more and more each day, each hour + each minute.

Everyone here is just fine. Mom + Dad went to Coney Island today and they say they had a wonderful time. Of course they didn't go on the rides but they ate all the ice cream they could plus soft drinks, fried shrimps, clams, etc.

Everybody was at my house last night and we had a big poker game on. My Uncle Edie, his wife, their daughter, Bobby, Marion, Louie's brother, his wife and some other friends of the family. Patricia slept here and is still sleeping here tonight.

Darling about the initials you had put on your bag or suit case. Of course I don't mind you having E.L.B. put on it. Infact I'm honored. I even addressed an envelope Miss Effie L. Brockenborough but I didn't send it. I had to get another one. Sweetheart, are you sure you can handle that long last name of mine. It sure is a difference from Shores.

I'm not working as yet hon. because mom suggested that I wait until you came because we could get married sooner if I didn't have a job. By that I mean it would be easier to get everything straight without any interferences.

Well hon. it's time to say Give my love to all. I love you.

With all my love,

Victor

Drawing – stick figure drawing, on the left a man with "Me" above him, saying "COME TO ME BABY"; on the right a woman with "you" above her, saying "I AM DEEDA"; the figures are reaching toward each other

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L.
I.L.Y.

Correspondence

July 18, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I received your letter the other day and you must know by now how happy I was to receive same. There isn't much to write about for everything has been going on as usual. We had a houseful yesterday. My Uncle Edie and his family were here with some of his relatives whose house he is staying at while in N.Y. They brought their daughter Joanie who is about 4 or 5 years old. My brother Bobby was here for he came to take Patricia home. Kate brought two girls home with her who are in her club and a friend of Marcy's was here. When those three kids get together, what a time. They (Carolyn, Patricia, + Joanie) can do and say some of the funniest things. Carolyn was saying that Uncle Eddie was her Uncle and not Joanie's, and Joanie says he is her Uncle and not Carolyn's. They kept that up until they were almost fighting so I said he's my Uncle. That did it. Both of them jumped on me and ~~say~~ said he is not.

My cousin Doris is spending a few days with me again. Marcy had about a two week vacation but started working again today.

I'm suppose to take my driving test today for a Chauffer License in the State of N.Y. I let you know how I make out.

We've been having some cool weather the past few days, but it's getting hot again.

I love you sweetheart and I'm crossing the days out in my mind as they go by. I was thinking about meeting you right at the train but if I'm not admitted down stairs I be at the gate. If you only knew how much I miss you how.

Sat. Noon, the 27th will be swell hon. I'll be there with open arms and I tell you now I'm going to kiss no matter who's around, understand? Tell granny I was glad to hear she got her first roast beef but it's same here as far as prices are concerned. Every thing is high and it seems like it will remain that way for a while.

With all my love,
Victor

Envelope

(Sender) 57-50 Granger St.
Corona, N.Y.
(Addressee) Miss Effie L. Shores
32-33 Ellis Ave.
Chicago 16, Ill.
Inside Flap S.W.A.M.L. +K.'s
I.L.Y.

Correspondence

July 21, 1946

My Dearest Effie,

I am sitting here thinking of you and telling myself over and over that this is the last Sunday I'll spend alone. I'm not pinching myself to see if this is all a dream because I'm afraid it is and if so I don't ever want to wake up. At this time next Sunday you'll be in my arms again. I've been thinking about nothing but you and meeting you at the station. If I don't say very much when I first see you, overlook it for I'll be too excited to talk.

I believe I put on a little more weight hon. and everyone is calling me fat. I believe it's from little work and no exercise but after we're married I'll work like mad to lose some poundage.

Guess what baby! I received my drivers license yesterday so all I need now is a fine car to go with it (smile) I didn't expect to receive the license so soon but I was pretty sure I had past my driving test.

I read a joke in the paper this morning that reminded me of you. It goes – We can't understand why a woman complains of having nothing to wear and then takes a couple of hours to put it on.

Say Baby, don't forget to get your consent to marry from Granny. Did you get the papers from St. James? I went to see the head priest at our church because he made out those papers mom sent me but he wasn't in. I'm going again this week to see about preparing for our marriage.

I wrote Aunt Edith and told her what I write you so that she wouldn't have to read the letters I write you (smile). Let me know what she says!

Well Babe, I hope this week goes by fast. I still miss you more than ever and love you even more than that. Give my love to all and I'll see if I can drop you another line before you get on your way here.

With all my love,

Victor

P.S. Take care of yourself on the train and don't get too chummy with any handsome guys on the way (smile) I love you.

Undated Letters (Folder 6)

Envelope – back

(Sender) From Hardy 294 Ashley Ave.
Charleston, S.C.

Correspondence

Christmas Card – Front

Merry Christmas

Inside

Wishing you a merrier Christmas and a happier New Year than ever before.

Miss V.E. Hardy

Lots of love from Godmother

No Envelope

Correspondence

102 Tuttle Ave
Spring Lake New Jersey

Dearest Julie,

Just a line. It does seem ages since I've seen or heard from you. When I left New York last year I had promised myself to see you before going home but I left Spring Lake sick so went right home and was sick six weeks. When I got up Susan husband, Maurice took down and was only in bed two weeks. Well it was such a shock to everyone he was never sick before. Well dear we haven't got over his death yet and what it means to us. I was in hopes of getting to see you but this woman kept sending telegrams so I only stop in N.Y. Saturday to get my Societies straightened out. But if the Good Lord so wills I will see you before returning South. Well dearie I feel for you in the loss of your dear Father he died just a week after Maurice and Mr. Ferguson across the street died exactly a month to the day he was sick just a day and night. You have no idea how fast the people are passing especially the men. Joe Frost that married Daisy Hayes died a little before Maurice five blacksmiths passed away inside of a few months. Julie dear, hows everything. Did Victor get the parcel. I bought those ties for him for school since in the Summer but things happen so fast. The collars the boss didn't want so I thot If Phil couldn't wear them the oldest boy could. Please drop me a line some time. Lots of love for all. Am writing this early this morning.

Lovingly,
Victoria

Envelope

(Sender) "Kabel"
(Addressee) Victor Brockenborough
Corona, N.Y.

Correspondence

413 W. 141st St.
N.Y.C., N.Y.

Dearest Victor,

I received your very sweet and interesting letter and was more than glad to hear from you again. When Marcy didn't give me a letter Mon. from you, I thought you had forgotten me already, but I'm glad you haven't. (smile)

Really, Victor, you shouldn't worry about minor things such as whether you'll hate high or low with me, I told you, I know I shall like you, but will you like me?? We shall see ---- Sunday. I don't know how to get to the Skating Rink, so could you meet me Sun. at 59th St. about 12:30? Marcy said I should come early. If you can't meet me or if you have a date, I'll put it off until next week. I am supposed to go to L.I. Sun. but Mother said I could go to the Rink if I would come on over to Hampstead afterwards. Ans. Immediately if possible and tell me whether you can meet me or not.

I enjoy your letter very much, and they are very interesting to me. You shouldn't be so anxious to meet me, because I don't want you to be dissapointed!!

I'll have to close now, but if you have time, write me a long letter and Marcy will give it to me Thurs.

Until I hear from you,

I'll Remain forever,
Mabel.

P.S. Please write what you wanted to ^in the^ last letter, let's just pretend, we know each other. -- ok?
I'll be expecting to hear from you soon.

Forever, Mabel

No Envelope

Correspondence

Wed. Night

Dearest Victor,

I received your very sweet letter and was very much thrilled at your lovely compliments.

I think you are such a nice boy. ---- I knew you would be.

I know you are waiting ---- and you do want me to be frank with you. You see Victor, boys do not play an important part in my life, and I think that I am much too young to become serious. I won't be 16 until 25th of this month so I think I have plenty of time to think of boys, in the meantime, my thoughts are on my school work.

I do like boys as companions but as far as loving them, I am not interested as yet. I know you will agree with me, because you have a sister my age and you understand her. -- I can't be serious with any boy yet, --- I know you understand what I'm trying to say.

I don't think I'll be free this Sun. but maybe next Sun. Will that be O.K.

I had such a lovely time Sun. and I really appreciate you treating me so nice. I didn't get to Hampstead until rather late, ---- but I did get there!!

Tell Joe "hello" for me, and to study a "sub" map, in case I come over again + get lost (smile). I think he is a swell friend of yours.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

As Ever Remain,
Yours Truly
Mabel